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ERN CHEMISTRY
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R. RADWAY'S
SAPARILLIAN
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DWAY'S
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DWAY'S
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ADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty
RADWAY'S
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adache, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness
Skin, Pain in the Side, Chest, Limbs
parts of Heat, Burning in the Flesh.
dway's Pills will free the system from
above disorders. Price 25 cents per box.
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DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

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Editorial.

FEEDING ROOT CROPS.

The feeding of roots to stock at this season of the year has become far more common that it used to be and we think most intelligent practical farmers have been fully convinced of its economy and utility. The fact is that most kinds of stock, milch cows and sheep especially, appear to thrive better where good sound succulent roots constitute a fair proportion of their food, than when they are fed wholly on hay. Even if the elements of nutrition are no greater in the roots, they have a more perceptibly beneficial effect, partly, no doubt, from the fact that these elements in the roots are more readily assimilable, more easily digested, or in other words more readily available.

We could present innumerable practical statements of actual trials and careful experiments in feeding if it were necessary. To a recent question in the New York *Tribune* as to the comparative value of potatoes as food for stock, Mr. L. B. Arnold, good authority on the subject, and a man of very careful observation, says:

"The food elements in potatoes, turnips, and other fresh roots have a value greater than the same amount of such elements contained in common hay. Being in intimate combination with water, the former are easily, quickly, and perfectly digested and assimilated, while the digestion of hay is slow and imperfect. Neat stock will generally sustain itself when fed it will eat of hay alone. But take away one half the amount of hay it consumes, and give in its place a weight of turnips which contains food elements equal to the hay removed, and the stock, instead of barely living, thrives. This is a uniform result, and it demonstrates the greater value of green food than dry, when both contain equal food elements. In feeding potatoes and similar green food to cattle there is no loss from imperfect digestion, while in hay, as commonly cut and handled by our farmers, the loss is considerable. The experiments in Chautauqua County in feeding meal alone, if they have done nothing else, have contributed a useful lesson in pointing out the waste of nutrition from indigestion in feeding common hay. About the year 1860, Philip Lazelle of Stockton, Chautauqua County, one of the substantial citizens of that town, began on the first day of January to feed his cow on three quarts of corn meal per day, in three feeds of one quart each, the meal being scalded. Not a particle of anything else was given except water. Without feeling any positive assurance as to the result, this experiment was entered upon to stave off, for a time, paying $24 to $40 a ton for hay—a price which scarcity had fixed upon it. The condition of the animal was closely watched, and being satisfied that she was being as well sustained in flesh and vigor as when fed on hay, he continued her feed without variation till she came in about the middle of April. Soon after that event he increased her feed to five quarts of meal per day, scalded and fed as before, and thus he continued till grass came, no coarse fodder of any kind be given during the whole time. In a recent interview with Mr. Lazelle, in regard to this experiment, I was assured that the flow of milk from the time she came in till grass came was fully equal to what it was in years before and after, when she had all the good hay she could use and a feed of meal besides, and that her flesh, strength, and vigor suffered no abatement by the change in the quality and amount of food. From a scarcity and high price of hay he has once since repeated the same experiment with equally favorable results."

This latter case of feeding was apparently adopted as a matter of necessity, that is to avoid paying an extravagant price for hay, and the farmer himself who tried it, does not appear to have carried it on as a regular system of feeding, but it is interesting as showing that a stock of cows can be kept up in condition on concentrated food alone and that too at a cost less than forty dollars a ton for hay. If Mr. Lazelle had plenty of roots, he would undoubtedly have utilized them instead of confining his cows to meal alone. Mr. Arnold continues the reference to potatoes and says:

"The practical effect of feeding potatoes as a substitute for hay, points also, but in a less conspicuous way, to loss from indigestibility in the hay. When the theoretical values of hay and potatoes are compared, it appears that over 300 bushels of potatoes would be required to equal in feeding value 100 pounds of English hay. But when tested practically, 200 pounds of potatoes are equal to 100 pounds of hay. The results of seven experimenters are quoted by Flint in his work on grasses, the average of which is below 200 pounds of potatoes for 100 pounds of hay. Two to one may be regarded as a safe rule in estimating the relative value of potatoes and hay in wintering neat stock, five out of the seven experimenters quoted by Flint having put them in that relation. The price of potatoes as a substitute for hay should vary in different localities, as the price of hay runs up and down. Where hay is $20 a ton, as it usually is near Boston, a bushel of 60 pounds would be worth 30 cents. As a substitute for meal in fattening beef, potatoes would be to meal, theoretically, about as 3 1-2 to 1, but when fed in connection with meal, and as a partial substitute for it, practically their ratio by weight is less than 3 to 1, potatoes having the advantage in perfection of digestion, and from their influence upon the other food taken with them. With meal at $2 per 100 pounds, potatoes would be worth about 45 cents a bushel. They have a similar value when fed with meal to milch cows. When used as a substitute for bran as a food for producing milk, they do not pay very well. Bran from wheat or rye is better food for milk than corn meal, when equal weights are taken and both are perfectly digested. Bran loses in comparison with meal, because, being more bulky, less of it is taken than the feeder is apt to suppose. A given measure of meal weighs not far from three times as much as bran. Two quarts of meal would be thought a moderate feed for a cow, but six quarts of bran would be thought a large one. When I have fed bran and meal by weight I have got as good results from one as the other, both being given raw. When both have been scalded, the bran has given the most milk. Though bran is richer in the elements of milk than corn meal, it is not, when fed raw, so easily or perfectly digested as meal. It is for this reason that when both are fed raw their results in milk are so nearly alike. When both are cooked, both are perfectly digested, and bran then shows its superiority as a milk producing food. The price of bran in comparison with meal and potatoes, and with its capacity for producing milk, is so slow that potatoes can hardly compete with it. Apples have a direct influence upon the digestion of other food fed with them. The juices of the fresh fruit seem to be very efficacious in dissolving other food fed with them. Potatoes exert an influence in the same direction but in a feebler degree. On this account they sometimes produce results which outreach their nutritive value, especially when fed in connection with dry food. A sprinkling of any green food with dry hay and grain, by way of variety in our long cold winters, exerts a healthful influence upon stock which will pay even at pretty high prices. Potatoes share with other green food in this respect. These cows must be wintered on common hay, alternated only with straw or cornstalks. I have scarcely a doubt that a moderate feed of potatoes daily, especially toward spring, would pay 50 cents a bushel in the health and vigor of the stock."

It is not claimed that the results of feeding in connection with green grass or with early cut hay or rowen would be so marked and perceptible. It is more important to feed roots now, and to bridge over the winter months, when the cattle in most of our New England barns are confined chiefly to dry hay and often to very poor hay at that. A good feeding of roots every day will help to dispose of the poorer qualities of hay, and we think there is no doubt that any animal will do better on inferior qualities of hay and fodder supplemented with roots, than on the best hay alone without the addition of roots.

It is a matter of congratulation that the practice of raising root crops for the stock has become more general than formerly and that it is still increasing in extent. A good supply of ruta bagas and mangolds is very important at this season of the year. Cattle not only relish them but thrive upon them, and come out of the barn in the spring enough better off to pay for all the extra trouble they involve.

MASS. BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Daniel T. Farnum, Esq., member elect to the State Board of Agriculture from the Hoosac Valley Agricultural Society, died very suddenly at his home in South Adams on Thursday last. He got up, apparently well, to build the fire, and was found dead on the floor by his wife, who rose soon after. Mr. Farnum was forty-four years old, prominent in agricultural affairs.

Milo J. Smith, Esq., of Smith's Ferry, Northampton, has been elected a member of the Board for three years, by the Hampshire Franklin and Hampden Agricultural Society. Mr. Smith is a good farmer.

John E. Morrill of Pittsfield has been elected Delegate to the Board for three years, in place of Hon. Ensign H. Kellogg whose term expires.

George M. Baker, Esq., of Marshfield, has been re-elected for three years, by the Marshfield Agricultural Society.

THE GRAIN TRADE.

We hear so much about the depression of business that we are likely to get the idea that all the rest of the world are having a jolly time of it, and that we are the only and the greatest sufferers. But according to the London *Times*, the farmers of other countries, and especially the wheat growers of southern Russia, are far worse off than we are. The financial article in the *Times* of January 4th, says:

"It seems from recent articles in the Moscow *Gazette*, that great stagnation prevails in the grain trade in Southern Russia. Russian agriculture and commerce are threatened with a collapse. Chief among the causes is the keen competition of America. Since the civil war in that country the British import of American wheat has increased until it stands now where the Russian importation stood in 1867. Then Russia sent out 44-100 of her total import, and the United States only 24-100. In 1873 the United States sent out 44-100, and Russia only 21-100. This does not represent a decrease to that extent of Russia's total exports; on the contrary, they have slightly increased, but America's have increased much faster. The chief causes are declared to be America's superior transit advantages, her virgin soil and her more scientific agriculture. The *Gazette* therefore urges Russian agriculturists to incorporate new lands, use better appliances and more skill; but says that cheaper inland transportation is the chief need.

Financial Crisis at Odessa—A Bad State of Affairs.—The Gazette's Odessa correspondent writes that the oldest inhabitants declare that Odessa was never at such a stand still since its foundation. No transactions are effected and bankruptcy follows bankruptcy. Houses have fallen to 30-100 of their value, and wheat is lying in the storehouses. Repeated failures of the crops in the southern districts of Russia are partly the cause of the difficulty.

This certainly exhibits a state of things far worse than anything that is experienced among the farmers of this country. In fact the depression of hard times in this country has struck the farming interests more lightly than any other. The manufacturers, the merchants, the mechanics and professional men suffer more than farmers. Incomes that usually come from stocks and railroad bonds have in many cases ceased and it leaves people in straitened circumstances, but crops have been good and the farm still produces the means of living and the owners are still comparatively independent, though prices do rule low.

WATERING POULTRY.—It is the belief of the writer that many of the diseases incident to poultry are due to neglect in providing them with pure water: particularly do I believe such to be the case, in the majority of instances where chicken cholera prevails. The omission to furnish fowls with suitable drinking water is one of the worst features of cruelty to animals. It is a neglect that is decidedly adverse to success, hence tends to dimish individual fancy for fowls, and works detriment to poultry interests. Those whom we occasionally hear say that "there is no profit in poultry" are not qualified to have the management of the same, and in their attention may be classed with the thriftless and neglected parties who keep fowls that get drink when it rains.—*Farmers' Journal.*

VICAR OF WINKFIELD.

In our remarks in last week's *Ploughman* in reply to our correspondent from Cordaville, we suggested the spreading of this pear upon the floor of a cool room to ripen up. That is a method which we have known to work well with some other varieties, like the Bartlett, the Seckle, the Clapp's Favorite, and similar sorts, but it may not be so well adapted to the Vicar, and on consultation with pear growers more conversant than we are with this particular variety, we are inclined to modify our remarks upon that point, and to say, barrel them up just as you do your apples, and when you want to use them, bring them up and ripen them in a warm room at a high temperature. Those who have had long experience with this particular pear say it is peculiar about ripening and requires a good deal of heat to bring out its quality, and many find difficulty in ripening it up properly. It is such a fine tree, and bears so well, scarcely any tree being equal to it in this respect, that it is worth taking pains to ripen it as it ought to be, when its quality is excellent.

SPAVIN IN HORSES.

We gave in the *Ploughman*, recently, some suggestions in regard to this common disease among horses and stated that it was a trouble that has afflicted this indispensable companion of man almost ever since he has been known in history. Shakspeare alludes to it more than once. See for instance the cute and fantastic allusion to the nag of "the mad Petruchio" in the following lines: "His horse hipped with an old mothy saddle, the stirrups of no kindred; besides, possessed with the glanders and like to mose in the chine, troubled with the lampas, infected with the fashions, full of windgalls, *sped with spavins*, raied with the yellows, past cure of the fives, stark-spoiled with the staggers, begnawn with the bots; swayed in the back, and shoulder shotten.' What a striking picture! We can almost see the poor swaybacked beast before our eyes, limping with the spavin and all used up, as sorry a nag as you ever saw.

And again, there is a capital "take off" of the gait of certain English snobs in Henry the VIII, young sprigs of the nobility who had visited France and were trying to introduce French manners into the climate of England.

"One would take it,
That never saw them pace before, *the spavin*
And springhalt reigned among 'em!"

It is apparent therefore, that the disease has baffled the scientific and practical skill of English and other surgeons for centuries, that we are no nearer a cure now than they were hundreds of years ago, since if it could have been cured it would have been stopped without being transmitted to our own horses and even to our colts, as it often is. Often, without any recognizable cause, or from any injury whatever, they exhibit ringbones, splints and spavins at a very early age. There is a manifest tendency in the bony structure of many colts to an osseous effusion. Overgrown young horses especially seem to be predisposed to spavin, and to weakness in the hocks and other joints. Their size and bodily frame are too much for their strength, with their long and slender bones, so that when they come to be broken, if not before, the weight put upon them is more than the bony system can endure. The joints are the first to suffer, and spavin, splint and other soft and elastic tissues are transformed into bone as the way which nature provides to guard against a complete break down.

CLIMATE OF CALIFORNIA.

We have spoken, at various times, in the columns of the *Ploughman*, of the climate, the natural production, and the resources of California. It is in many respect a curious and interesting state, and to be appreciated needs more than a transient visit. The period of growth of vegetation no doubt, accounts in part for the wonderful specimens which nature presents us there. See for example the following:

The Sacramento *Union* (Dec. 29) says, "Tomato vines are still green and growing; and tomatoes on them, if a little protected, are ripening and coloring, as if in midsummer. Blackberries and red raspberries, fully ripe and of good color and flavor, have also been picked from vines in this city within the last few days, and may still be seen growing and maturing on the vines. Rose and many garden flowers are in bloom and full foliage throughout the city. In the country, through all valleys of the State, clover fields are as green as in April, and volunteer grain, and that on early-sown fallowed land, is from six to ten inches high, and of a rank green color. The oak trees of second growth are still green with last year's leaves, while apple and fig trees are but just parting with their foliage. In this vicinity there has been but one frost, and that a very light one."

This is all the more interesting when we remember the temperature of New England on the 30th of November and the first and second days of December, with the thermometer dancing from ten degrees below zero to ten degrees above, either of which is about as much as human nature likes to grapple with. Now we like our cold and bracing winters, but "there is reason in all things," and when the temperature is at zero, and the wind blowing a gale at that, it suggests the comfort of a little bright sunshine and life among the roses. We left Sacramento in August with the thermometer at about 100 degrees.

COMFORT OF FARM STOCK.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman*, makes the following timely suggestion:

"Some ten years ago in December, I devoted a half day's work, $2, to tightening up a stable for five cows, so that no manure from it in afterwards, and instead of having less milk every cold snap and more every thaw, it was *more* right along, in milk, comfort in milking, cleaning the stable, health of cows and thrift of calves, and only *less* in amount of feed required. One small Ayrshire coming in just then didn't vary eight pounds from thirty five pounds of milk per day, and ten pounds of butter per week, for five months. Publishing my experience in the *New England Farmer*, led others to go and do likewise, and some years after, one correspondent said that one item was worth more to him than the cost of the paper—and so gave the ball another push, as all should do. I found that with a properly constructed stable, the animal heat from a cow will keep a space five times her size above freezing temperature, and still allow good ventilation about her head, regulated at pleasure by an adjustable door in front. The winter profit of dairies may be increased a third, in saving of caloric and food, and increased milk and calf product, by remembering that a kind man is kind to his beasts, and that disregarding their *comfort costs more.*"

GOV. RICE ON AGRICULTURE.

It will be perceived by those who read the comprehensive and excellent inaugural address of His Excellency Governor Rice that he alludes to the agricultural interests of the State, and gives them a fair share of space, which many governors have neglected to do, entirely ignoring the fact that we have any agriculture at all. The Gov. says:

"In surveying the manifold industries of the State, agriculture is so comparatively noiseless as to be liable to pass unnoticed, unless we are reminded by some special incident of its importance. Though not an agricultural State, in the common acceptation of the term, yet the statistics show that the farmers of Massachusetts raise more per acre, on an average, even of the staple crops, than the farmers of small farm States or even the great agricultural States of the Union. The annual yield of the farms of this State, according to the returns of 1865, was nearly eighty-two millions of dollars; and it is thought to be reasonably certain that since that date there has been a gradual increase in the form of small fruits, garden or market vegetables, and the dairies, though there may have been some decrease in the staple crops of the farm. Experiments undertaken along the seashore, in dyking and reclaiming extensive tracts of salt marshes, have proved so satisfactory as to greatly increase the interest in this enterprise, and there is every prospect that thousands of acres of fertile lands will be added to the productive area of the State. Careful scientific investigations into the changes which take place in the soil of reclaimed marshes have been instituted under the direction of the State Board of Agriculture, which afford valuable information and aid to practical cultivators, and which are likely to stimulate to greater efforts in similar relinquations along our sea coast. An interesting and valuable series of experiments has been instituted under the auspices of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, in promoting the growth of crops; and these experiments have excited a degree of interest and inquiry among the farmers which is likely to lead to important results. That our State has been one of more than usual prosperity to agricultural industry, and the courage and hopefulness among the farming community, we are told, present a strong contrast to the general depression in mercantile, manufacturing, and mechanical pursuits. The number of incorporated agricultural societies which receive bounty from the State, is thirty, and the amount of bounty received is about $18,000. It is suggested that some changes in the methods of distributing this bounty could be made, by which the objects sought by the distribution would be likely to be further promoted."

It must be apparent that an annual product of more than eighty millions is sufficient to entitle this great interest to official recognition, at least. This figure, however, included about nineteen million of live stock, only about twenty-five per cent. of which could probably be reckoned as annual product, so that sixty five or seventy millions would be a near approximation. Still with this deduction, our agricultural product is very large in proportion to our size and population, as compared with most other and more strictly farming States.

The Poultry Interest.

WOMEN AS POULTRY RAISERS.

The special capacity of women for caring for pets is so well established that it is a matter of surprise that a larger number do not make their natural inclination a matter of profit in the raising of poultry. There is no reason why women may not be as successful as man in this branch of profitable and productive industry. Indeed, when it is considered that the business requires close attention to minute details, patience, and gentleness of manner, woman seems to be peculiarly fitted for the business. The Danbury man's humorous description of the different ways in which woman and man attempt to get a hen into the coop, and the superiority of the former's method, is as true as it is funny. After the hennery or coop is built there is no department of the work that a woman cannot perform without exhausting labor or too heavy demands upon her time. "Down South" poultry raising is woman's special department, and one need not go farther South than Baltimore or Washington to find the markets thronged with the female venders of their own feathered products. That the business is profitable, the experience of hundreds testifies, and that it is healthful, and may be attractive, is susceptible of demonstration.

CARBOLIC ACID FOR POULTRY HOUSES. A writer in the London *Field* strongly recommends the use of carbolic acid for destroying insects in pigeon and poultry houses, asserting that it neither injures the birds nor tends to drive them from their nests. He uses it in the form of a solution of two ounces of common carbolic acid to three quarts of water, applying this once a week with a watering pot, after the house has been carefully swept out. Besides the lice and parasites that it destroys, it is also efficient in driving out fleas. For the purpose of expelling lice from the bodies of pigeons, the proposed method is to mix one part of Calvert's liquid carbolic acid with thirty parts of water, and shake well before using.

EFFECT OF CAMPHOR ON SEEDS.

Certain curious and all but forgotten experiences of much interest to agriculture and gardening have lately been revived by a German savant. Very many years ago it was discovered and recorded that water saturated with camphor had a remarkable influence on the germination of seeds. As of many other useful hints, the stupid world took no notice of this intimation; but a Berlin professor, having seen the record of it, appears to have established the facts that a solution of camphor stimulates vegetables as alcohol does animals. He took seeds of various sorts, some being three or four years old, and possessing a slight degree of vitality, and placed them between sheets of blotting paper. Some of these he wetted with pure water, and others with camphorated water. In many cases the seeds did not swell at all under the influence of the simple moisture, but in every case they germinated where they were subjected to the camphor solution. The experiment was extended to different kinds of garden seeds, old and new, and always with the result of showing a singular awakening of dormant vitalism and a wonderful quickening of growth. It also appears from the professor's researches that the young plants thus stimulated continued to increase with a vigor and vivacity much beyond that of those which were not so treated. On the other hand, when pounded was mixed with the soil, it appeared to exercise a rather bad effect upon the seeds. The dose in this latter case was possibly too strong. At all events, this action of camphor is worthy of an examination by seedsmen and gardeners, and even farmers might determine how far wheat and barley may be profited by the strange power this drug appears to possess over the latent life of vegetable germs.—*Horticulturist.*

Questions & Answers.

SICK OX.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman

I have an ox that about four weeks ago commenced to scour and lick himself, sometimes he appears to be in pain. I have cured him of scouring but he continues to lick himself nearly all the time. He eats well but looks sick, has fallen away very much; his feed has been hay; have worked him a little. I can find no signs of lice or no cause for the sickness. Do oxen ever have bots or worms? Can you tell me what to do for him? D. R., JR.

Lyman, Me., Jan. 3, 1876.

It is evidently a case of indigestion, and although scouring existed, a dose of physic should have been administered, one and one half pounds of Epsom salts, with a tablespoonful of ginger. At present we would advise eight ounces of salts and two ounces of powdered sulphur, to be given with one quarter of an ounce of powdered gentian; three doses of the above, omitting every other day, or perhaps it may be better to give two doses and not give the other for three or four days, and if there is improvement, the last dose may be omitted entirely, or divided into two doses and administered as before. In small doses it will act as an alterative, and particularly on the skin.—ED.

Correspondence.

LIBERAL MANURING.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman

Permit me to state a fact or two in illustration, and as a brief answer of the question, "Shall we cultivate *many* or *few* acres, with the same quantity of manure?" Much has been said on the subject, and many farmers, who are free to acknowledge that a small amount of land, *well* and *thoroughly* "dressed," will yield a greater profit, than many more acres, scantily manured, still practise the opposite—still adhere to the old habit; and they do this, when they know they have not the means of supplying their fields with the proper amount of fertilizing matter.

Let me illustrate. One of my neighbors has a field of twenty acres, more or less, and yet has *thoroughly* manured only *five or six.*

Last year, he put about thirty cords of manure, of average quality, from his barnyard, on *five* acres. Now, what was the result?

He obtained of excellent English hay, from these five acres, *twelve and a half tons*, and of Rowen, *seven and a half tons!* In other words *four tons* per acre!

If the coming hay season is a favorable one, he will probably secure from the same small quantity of land, twenty-two tons!

Facts are stubborn things. The plain inference is, that it is far better to cultivate a few acres, *well* and *thoroughly manured* than to attempt to secure, from a larger quantity of land, the same amount of produce, at a much greater expense of time and labor, while the amount of fertilizing matter remains the same. One thing however, should not be forgotten, which is this. The same *kind* of fertilizer should not be used, year after year. A change is doubtless better, and where one has an abundance of the *same*, through successive seasons, he could exchange, perhaps, with some of his neighbors. A. M. P.

Saugus Centre, Mass., Jan. 6th, 1876.

FARMERS, ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Farmyard manure, of "ordinary" farmers, as you make it appear, Mr. Editor, from the dictum of an extra-ordinary farmer, is worth just about $3,35, while it costs them, as it is valued in the market (including its application) about $10 per cord. Or, the value of a cord of an ordinary farmer's manure, can be put into an extra-ordinary farmer's bushel basket, and weighs about 74 pounds, against the 3,000 pounds of the ordinary farmer. That is to say, ordinary farmers, expend $10 in order to obtain $3,35 in money value, and sixty bushels in measurement for a single bushel. We are further told *how* to make a cord of compost as good as the cord of barnyard manure, which will not cost over $3,50 the cord "and ought, *other things being equal,*" to secure as good purpose in the field. The trouble is, *other things are not equal.*

Ordinary and extra-ordinary,—theory and experience—fact and fancy and many other things, are very unequal.

You, Mr. Editor, say "this fixed up thing don't seem to produce the same effect as the real genuine article." This is simply because of the inequality. If this truly extra-ordinary farmer, will take a truly run down farm, and base his crops thereon entirely upon his 74 pounds, or bushel basket full of crude mineral salts, with which we will allow his 332 pounds of carbonaceous matter in the form of "muck, peat, straw or chaff," that is he shall use this (his cord equivalent) for every cord of barnyard manure the ordinary farmer would use per acre, and then if his resultant crop does not take the place in value of his cheap manure, compared to a similar crop of an ordinary farmer, we will acknowledge our mistake in his extra-ordinary value as a sophist. There is a good deal of spurious experience, which passes current, because it is temporized with, but truth or fact needs no temporizing policy from those who really feel an interest in true agricultural science.

I believe Dana pomulgated the same manurial idea, years ago, but it had not depth of truth enough to develope into a fixed fact. The average or ordinary American farmer is not so devoid of common sense—so extravagant—so prone to apply labor for no purpose, as to delve over the application of a cord of worthless material, when a bushel basket would contain all the available value of the same. He does not pass—go through and over, the farm of self-sufficiency, without noting the production and if perchance a Yankee farmer finds a valuable idea thereon, he is not likely to let it corrode and rust for the want of his personal application, although he is a non-comformist in experimental extravaganza.

As you say, Mr. Editor, "a fixed up thing" that don't work, he don't believe in, and no chemical sophistry can secure his conviction. Why not tell Nature that her countless forest leaves contain but an atom of the mineral salts necessary to replace the waste of vegetation, and "teach Eternal Wisdom how to rule." T. H. W.

INDIAN CORN.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

There is no plant raised upon the farm that will compare with Indian corn in beauty and thrift, while growing in the field. What can be more gratifying to the eye than a large field of this most gigantic of grasses, with its rank tropical growth, its serried ranks, its silken tufted ears, and its tall spindles, often eight or ten feet in height. We hope the time is not far distant when the farmers of New England will pay more attention to the production of this almost indispensable crop.

For fattening purposes, or for cows, when butter is the main object, this grain has no equal.

Forty years ago, the farmers of New England raised all the corn needed in this section, enough for their own purposes, besides sufficient to supply the cities and large towns.

Now it is safe to say, that not one farmer in ten raises half enough for his own use, and depends upon the South and West for his supply for feeding purposes.

Farmers of the present day in this section, do not fatten so many hogs or so much beef as they did formerly, but the cows are better fed and old dobbin, while he has to work harder and travel faster, is much better fed and cared for than in "the good old times," so that on the whole as much corn, perhaps more, is used on our New England farms than there was forty years ago.

But the great question after all is, will it pay to raise corn in New England? As far as our experience goes, we are prepared to answer most decidedly in the affirmative.

For twenty years the corn we have raised has not cost more than fifty cents per bushel, while the average price of corn for the same period, has been more than eighty cents per bushel.

Of the different crops raised in this vicinity, we think the corn crop is the surest; having known but one failure in twenty years. Some sixteen or seventeen years since, we had an early frost, so that a large portion of the crop was unsound. Since that time this crop has been large, in proportion to the area planted, and perfectly sound.

The fodder from an acre of stout corn, is worth at least, as much as a ton of good English hay.

For several years we have made a practice of using old barnyard manure composted with muck for this crop, as being the safest and surest. After the fall work is disposed of, the manure from the barnyard and pig pen is carted out to the lot, where we intend to have our corn field, and placed in a compact pile and covered up with muck. In the spring, if the quantity of old manure is insufficient, a quantity of fresh barnyard manure is added, and the whole thoroughly worked over.

The heap is then allowed to stand until it is quite warm, when it is ready for using.

A good shovelful of this manure placed in each hill, is sufficient to insure a good crop, provided the corn is well hoed.

The above remarks apply more particularly to heavy clay soils; on light porous soils, where the roots can penetrate quickly and easily, as good results, perhaps better, can be obtained by spreading the manure and covering with the plough or harrow.

When the manure is carted out in the summer and well covered, the work of overhauling in the spring may be dispensed with, as the hay and straw mixed with the manure will be found to be so far decomposed, that the shovel will meet with no obstruction in passing through the mass.

In regard to the distance of the hills apart, we have tried several different methods, but have finally concluded that three and one-half feet between the hills each way, with three stalks to each hill, gives the best results. D.

Rowley, January, 1876.

NERVE FUNCTION IN PLANTS.

In reviewing Mr. Darwin's book on "Insectivorous Plants," the *Spectator* says:

A few words must now be said about the facts discovered by Darwin while investigating the movements of the leaves. Here some of the resemblances in the processes to those witnessed in animals are perfectly startling. These movements are most perfectly seen in the trap of the Dionæa, and Dr. Burdon Sanderson's remarkable researches show that they are subject exactly to the same laws as govern muscular movements and nerve influence. The closure of the trap of the Dionæa must be regarded as homologous to the act of swallowing, and like that it is purely reflex. Thus after the folius of food has reached the region of the glosso pharyngeal nerve in our own tongues it is beyond our control, and the reflex mechanism closes it within the stomach. When the food of the fly-trap touches one of the nerve filaments the lobes close by a reflex movement identical in its phenomena with that seen in the animal. Mr. Darwin seems to object to the application of the term "nerve" to the filaments of the Dionæa, but without good reason, as it seems to us. When certain tissue becomes specialized for the conveyance of messages from the periphery to the center, or *vice versa*, it goes by the name of nerve among animals, and the same thing should have the same name in a plant, in spite of the shock it may give to some human nerves to find such a bond of union established. In the sundew, as indeed in the tissue of the Dionæa beyond the filaments, the nerve force seems to be conveyed in every dissection by the ordinary tissue of the plant. Mr. Darwin's experiments show this conclusively. It is not what we should at first have expected, especially in the Dionæa, but deeper consideration shows that it is another of our author's great discoveries in support of evolution. In the individual, nerve tissue is developed from ordinary protoplasm, and in the lower orders of animal life, as in crustaceans, ordinary non-specialized protoplasm must, in greater part, serve for nerve functions. Thus, when we get to a still earlier phase of the existence of nerve function, where it has to serve the demand for movements of the most simple and uniform character, specialization of tissue for the conveyance of currents is not needful, any more than insulation is not needed for a wire when passing through a bad conductor like air. In fact, the analogy is complete. Nerves are only insulated protoplasm, developed when many definite currents are needed and must not be confused by contact. In the fly trap only one current is used for one purpose, so it may safely go all over the leaf.

Porcine.

BEST FOOD FOR SWINE.

What would be considered the best food for swine in summer would not answer the same purpose in winter. In summer, such food should be given as would keep the animal in an improving condition, and would cause it to lay on a little fat, but not so much as to cause it to suffer from the heat, as a fat porker undoubtedly does. Cooling foods, such as plenty of young clover and bran and middlings slop, is what we use much of, not forgetting to give regular and abundant supplies of fresh, cool water. In putting up swine for exhibition purposes, we have tried many different kinds of food for the fall exhibitions, but have found none so desirable as a slop made of corn meal and ground together, one-third of the former, by measure, to two-thirds of the latter. One of the best ways to prepare it is to scald it at night and feed next morning, put on the mass only enough hot water to thoroughly moisten it, and then cover up the barrel tight so it can steam well, and make the mass mellow and nice by morning. If it is found undesirable to scald it, moisten the mass with water and then put in one or

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE---BOSTON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1876.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Herewith we present to the readers of the *Ploughman* a recital of the chief topics of the inaugural Address of Gov. Rice. They are either extracted bodily from it or condensed. They will show to the reader the precise state of the affairs of Massachusetts, as verified by the different departments of their administration. Gov. Rice sets them forth in a luminous and thoroughly business way, so that they at once become universally intelligible. Perhaps the history given of the Hoosac Tunnel management will prove of the most practical interest, the other topics in the Message being more in routine and scarcely calling for the application of more than the ordinary legislative attention. It is proper to say, in view of the manner in which the new Governor's Address has been received, that the present may be called an "era of good feeling" in the politics of the State, both parties evincing only an earnest desire to promote her honor and substantial prosperity:—

STATE FINANCES.

The public debt of the Commonwealth now amounts to nearly thirty-four millions of dollars, showing no appreciable increase over the corresponding period last year of about four and a half millions,—a larger increase than has been made in any year since the close of the extra expenses of the war can end. A portion of this increase was authorized by the Legislatures of previous years, but did not appear in their accounts; and a portion of the money raised is still in the treasury. A favorable state of the money market having rendered it expedient, in the opinion of the fiscal officers, to anticipate the immediate demands upon appropriations for the year, but I am informed that it is certain the whole amount, and probably some additions, will be required to complete the objects and fulfil the purposes for which the appropriations were made. It will be observed, also, that the increase of the sinking-fund account is made nearly commensurate with the increase of the debt; this fund is kept unimpaired and unpledged, except for the special purposes for which it has been from time to time created, and it therefore virtually provides for the ultimate payment of that portion of the debt. Yet an increasing debt makes also an increasing interest account, which must be annually provided for in some form of taxation.

While the credit of the State justly remains unimpaired, and its resources are amply sufficient to keep it so, yet the continued depression of the business of the country, and the reduced income of almost all classes of the people, admonish us that there should be no increase in any form of the public indebtedness, and that measures except for the most urgent and pressing necessity. The tendencies of the times have been toward excess and extravagance in all things, and vigilance is required to prevent the extension of this influence into the objects of legislation, and thus to bring directly or unawares upon the State, pecuniary burdens which will be oppressive to the people and injurious to its credit at home and abroad. It has always been a subject of honorable satisfaction to our fellow-citizens that the good credit of the State has been maintained through the vicissitudes of peace and war; and the premiums which have from time to time been realized from the sale of its bonds have formed a considerable portion of the sinking funds which are so important a security for its loans.

The following statement shows the amount and character of the funded debt, January 1, 1876.

Aggregate funded debt, Jan. 1, 1875.....	$29,465,304 00
Debt issued during the year?	
Troy and Greenfield R. R. loan (sig.).....	$1,497,980 00
Troy and Greenfield R. R. loan (fol.).....	1,890,000 00
Worcester Hospital loan...	150,000 00
Worcester Hospital loan...	200,000 00
State Prison and Women's Prison (sterling).....	1,292,380 00
	5,030,360 00
Paid during the year;	
Harbor improvement loan..	$230,000 00
Union Fund loan.....	432,000 00
Lunatic Hospitals and Prisons of 1854.....	1,000 00
Almshouse loan of 1854....	1,000 00
New State Prison loan.....	9,000 00
	689,000 00
Present funded debt.....	$33,806,664 00
Classification of the debt:	
Railroad loans.....	$17,768,998 00
War loans.....	12,746,198 00
Ordinary loans.....	1,293,468 00
	$33,806,664 00
Net increase of funded debt in 1875..	$4,441,360 00

Thirteen thousand dollars of overdue bonds have not yet been called for.

The balance of the Union Fund loan, $1,424,009, will mature during the current year, and its payment is amply provided for by the sinking fund applicable for that purpose.

The sinking funds amount to $11,725,309 12

These funds, as also the Back Bay lands, the South Boston flats, and other property are, by existing laws, pledged for the redemption of the State debt, and with, perhaps, the exception of the Troy and Greenfield loan and the prison and hospital loan, will be sufficient for its redemption at maturity.

The estimates for 1876 are as follows:

Ordinary expenditures and payments from the revenue..... $4,960,700 00

The ordinary revenue of the year including revenue cash in the treasury..... 3,549,324,00

A State tax of $1,800,000 or $2,000,000 will be necessary to meet the estimated deficiency, and leave the treasury at the close of the year with cash in hand sufficient for such calls as may be made upon it before the ordinary revenues of the succeeding year shall begin to be realized.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The returns of the savings banks for the last three years show a difference in favor of the total amount on deposit; a slight gain in the deposits in 1875 over those made in 1874; and, notwithstanding the large increase in the number of new depositors, a smaller amount withdrawn from these institutions in 1875 than in either of the two previous years. The official figures are as follows: In 1873 there were 172,463 depositors, with a total deposits of $202,193,343; in 1874, 173 banks, deposits $217,452,120; in 1875, 180 banks, deposits $238,306,394. The total amount deposited during the three years was $658,845,558; in 1874 $57,611,608; in 1875, $59,750,144. The withdrawals in each year were: in 1873, $44,455,349; in 1874, $46,906,036; in 1875, $46,906,036. You will no doubt see that the necessary legislation for protecting the interests of depositors and of the public in these institutions exists, or shall be provided.

HOOSAC TUNNEL.

One of the largest enterprises in which the State is interested is the Hoosac Tunnel and the Troy and Greenfield Railroad connecting therewith. It has been found of late years also to be one of the most difficult of management, whether regarded in the light of a pecuniary investment, or of its utilization as an element in our system of internal improvements.

In stating the present condition of this enterprise, it will be necessary to remind you that the opening of the tunnel through the Hoosac Mountain by no means finished the work necessary to render it available for use as a railroad line. For the purpose of completing what needed to be done on the tunnel, and of inquiring into the business connections which might profitably be entered into between this and various trunk lines, and of devising a scheme for its best utilization, the Legislature of 1874 passed an act providing for the appointment by the Governor and Council of five persons, to be a body corporate for one year from July 1, 1874, under the name of the "Hoosac Tunnel and Western Railroad Company"; and to them were given full powers of construction and administration. Their report, submitted at the present future in January last, will reward your careful perusal.

Simultaneously with the incorporation of this Board one million and a half dollars were appropriated to be expended upon that part of the Troy and Greenfield Railroad west of Bardwell's Ferry, three hundred thousand dollars having been previously appropriated for constructing archway in defective portions of the eastern and central sections of the road. This latter sum was to be expended by the Governor and Council, by whom a contract was made (Nov. 19, 1874,) for arching about two thousand feet of the tunnel, which, upon an examination of the work that had then been made, was supposed to be all the arching that was required. The corporators, upon examination of the progress made in their charge, found the Troy and Greenfield Railroad "in an exceedingly unsatisfactory condition," due not only to defects in original construction, but to subsequent neglect; and they at once entered into contracts for the work of repair and reconstruction, which required its completion by the 1st of July, 1875; but I am informed that the work will probably not be completed before the end of the present year.

The Legislature of 1875 passed an act placing the control of the property after July 1, 1876, in the hands of the Governor and Council; and appropriated the sum of one million three hundred thousand dollars to be expended by them upon the work.

Four thousand feet of arching in the tunnel in addition to the two thousand feet then in progress, were found to be necessary; and a contract for this additional work, or for such portion of it as can be completed at a cost not exceeding $600,000, was made on the 9th of September last. It is agreed that the work of arching shall cease on the 30th of June, 1876. The Governor and Council also contracted, in September and October last, for the rebuilding in part of the line lying between Bardwell's Ferry and Greenfield, and these contracts have a year to run from their date. The line between the tunnel and North Adams, which, as originally built, was contracted for in February, 1875, and will be completed in the ensuing spring. The road between North Adams and the Vermont State line is nearly completed.

While it may be frankly admitted that in the progress of the work during the last quarter of a century antedating the period at which I have thus far referred, there has no doubt been much mismanagement and much injudicious expenditure, it may yet be interesting and somewhat instructive to compare its cost with that of other public works of similar nature in other States and countries. The bridge over the Mississippi river at St. Louis, with its connecting tunnel under the city, together less than two and a half miles in length—less than half the length of the Hoosac Tunnel—is reported as having cost thirteen and a half millions of dollars, of which three and a half millions were absorbed by discounts, commissions and interest on bonds. The Mont Cenis Tunnel was thirteen years in construction; its length is about seven and a half miles, and its total cost was from twelve and a half to thirteen million dollars, gold value, with labor at about half the price paid on the Hoosac Tunnel work. On the acquisition of Savoy, France assumed one-half of this tunnel, agreeing to pay for it the sum of $1,267,000, to which was subsequently added a large sum as compensation to the contractors for completing the work several years before the expiration of the contract time. The half interest of France in this tunnel must have cost upward of seven millions of dollars, gold value. The St. Gothard Tunnel, which will have a length of about nine and a half miles, will cost, according to present estimates, about eleven and a half millions of dollars, gold value, with cheap European labor.

The amount of money and credit advanced by the State for the Troy and Greenfield Railroad to 31st of December, 1875, was $11,920,334 67; the interest paid on loans to the same date was $2,203,628 99; total, $15,123,963 66. The balance of legislative appropriations unexpended on the 31st of December, 1875, was $1,414,102 82. The total cost of the railroad and tunnel, therefore, when all existing appropriations shall have been exhausted, will be $16,538,126 48.

In owing to the future, so far as relates to the completion of the tunnel and of the Troy and Greenfield Railroad, no legislation seems to be called for at the present session, the work being all under contract, with the prospect of being faithfully performed. Nor will you now be asked by me to vote any further appropriations in aid of it. If I rightly interpret the feeling of the people, they hold the opinion very positively that the State has gone as far as it ought to go in the expenditure of money on the tunnel line, and that it must cease to be a source of expense to the Commonwealth: until we have some new and convincing evidence to the contrary, I think we must all share in this conviction.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

My immediate predecessor called the attention of the Legislature of last year to the amendment to our State Constitution adopted in 1855, providing for the election by the people, of Sheriffs, Registers of Probate, Commissioners of Insolvency, Clerks of Courts and District Attorneys, and recommending an inquiry respecting the expediency of repealing this amendment, and of returning, in the selection of these officers, to the original method of appointment. The Legislature, by the requisite majority in both branches, adopted resolutions in favor of repealing the amendment referred to, so far as relates to Sheriffs, Commissioners of Insolvency, Clerks of Courts and District Attorneys. It will be necessary for you to confirm this action before the propositions thus to change the Constitution can be submitted to the people; and I would bespeak for the subject your favorable consideration.

THE MILITIA.

During the last year the militia was brought into unusual prominence on account of the centennial celebrations, in which it bore a conspicuous part, receiving encomiums from visiting strangers and from my predecessor, I believe, has its good reputation received injury. Especially was it commended by the General commanding the United States army and other military officers of high rank, for its good appearance on the 17th of June, when, under special authority of the Legislature, the entire division was ordered to the city of Boston to participate in the ceremonies required usually on the last Wednesday in May.

For details respecting the various tours of duty required by law during the year, and of special service performed at Springfield, South Deerfield and Fall River under precept of civil authority, I refer you to the report of the Adjutant General, about to be submitted.

STATE CHARITIES.

The charities of the State will merit your careful consideration. The methods of treatment of pauperism, lunacy and crime—problems always intricate in their solution—have, during the present depression of business and the scarcity of employment. The poor should be dealt with justly and liberally; but the interests of the people require that no more aid should be given, nor for a longer period, than is actually necessary, lest imposture be fostered, efforts for self support be weakened and permanent paupers ensue. It is in this direction that the administration of public charities should be committed, by the State and by municipalities, to discreet and energetic persons, whose official proceedings shall be open to scrutiny. Were this always done, no person in Massachusetts need suffer for the necessaries of life, except those who are negligent to seek relief. The Board of State Charities is expected to watch all the institutions of charity and reform, and to recommend all necessary and advisable changes, in the numerous and difficult duties imposed by the statutes regulating charity and reform are administered by departments in which nearly all the power is locally vested, subject more or less to the negative of the Board.

For the details of the work of the year in these departments, the condition and needs of the institutions which the Board supervises, and its suggestions, I must refer you to its annual report, which will be duly transmitted, and which, in general, will recommend, as a measure of economy and reform, the consolidation of its own bureaus.

THE LICENSE LAW.

The last quarter of a century has been notable for the discussion of the subject of intemperance, and for the efforts to suppress this great vice by different forms of legislation. It is too late to render necessary any argument or demonstration of the evils of promiscuous dram-selling and drunkenness. These are well nigh universally admitted, and to a degree that exhibits them as the greatest source of poverty, of crime, and of misery and unhappiness with which society is afflicted; so that it is not only the duty of the Legislature, but the interest of the people, to adopt such means and measures as shall diminish the sum of these evils of intemperance; and it is over, this is not only a question of morals, but it has important relations also to the industrial and economic interest of the State. Nor would there be any reason to conclude that public opinion has become more tolerant of the evils of drunkenness, in consequence of the comparative failure of past discussion and legislation to diminish them. The people of Massachusetts, by a large majority, are no doubt strongly in favor of the utmost suppression of intemperance; and it is their duty, and of the law makers, to adopt measures as the well being of society demands on this as on other subjects. The vital question, therefore, is not whether we shall suppress more than we can, but whether we shall come together at last for an interchange of thought, as well as of merchandise; to rub off the asperities and jealousies which distance and separation engender, and to cultivate those friendly sentiments and that mutual esteem which may precede the beating of swords into ploughshares and of spears into pruning hooks.

The response to the call of our national government to join in this international display has been so general, that we may expect one of the most valuable and important collections of the objects of utility and beauty that has ever been gathered. The Legislature of last year appropriated the sum of fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of "securing at the Exhibition at Philadelphia a due representation of the different arts, industries, and institutions of this Commonwealth"; and in pursuance thereof, the Governor and Council appointed three Commissioners or agents to carry out the objects of the appropriation. This sum, perhaps, exhibits the extent to which the Legislature trusted in the pride and patriotism or the people of the Commonwealth, to enter by voluntary effort and contribution into such a representation as should be worthy of their attainments and of their renown. The Commissioners above referred to have been assiduous in the use of the means placed at their command; and those appointed by the national government have also made encouraging progress in securing the co-operation of manufacturers, mechanics and inventors, to prepare and forward specimens of their skill and handicraft.

The educational institutions of the State are preparing a thorough exhibit of their plan of operations, and I trust that the facilities for training the young for the service of life, by means of primary, high, normal and industrial schools, academies, institutes and colleges, will be completely represented. It is especially desirable that the organization of Massachusetts as a State should be accurately reported upon at this time in her history; and I would urge upon the officers having charge of the various departments of her civil economy to prepare the most thorough and elaborate illustrations of what the State has done and is doing, and the theory and plans upon which her efforts in this direction have been based.

I need hardly remind you, Senators and Representatives, that above and beyond the graphic industries of all nations and of every clime, there will be one suggestive and transcendent contribution to this grandest of Exhibitions—one element which surpasses the invention's cunning and the craftsman's skill, and which we gladly believe will survive when all the material monuments of human greatness have crumbled into dust or mouldered into decay; it is the life of this Republic; new-born every hour in the affections of the American people—strengthened and defended by increasing millions scattered over the acres of our vast domain—the inspiration of our patriotism; let it be also the sustaining hope of freedom and progress throughout the world.

PRESIDENT LORING'S ADDRESS.

The Address of President Loring on taking the chair at the head of the Senate after its organization, an honor to which he has deservedly been called now for the fourth successive time, was marked by a merit that is exceptional in similar public efforts, and has drawn to its author the praise of men of all political sentiments. It was an apposite, graceful, scholarly and most effective speech, saying the right things at the right time, and touching the duties and responsibilities of the body over which he was called to preside in a proper manner. The speech is given in connection with these comments, as one which will especially interest the readers of the *Ploughman* for its earnest and eloquent reference to the approaching Centennial. That is its central feature, and it will be read again by those who have read it already with a keen sympathy for the generously patriotic sentiments to which it gives such full and felicitous expression:—

Senators:—For the long continued courtesy of the Massachusetts Senate I have every reason to be grateful. Called now, for the fourth time, to preside over its deliberations, I congratulate myself that I have been able to retain and receive from yourselves the confidence so kindly bestowed upon me by your predecessors,—the confidence which, I trust, our association of the year, and of special service performed at Springfield, South Deerfield and Fall River under precept of civil authority, I refer you to the report of the Adjutant General, about to be submitted.

STATE CHARITIES.

The charities of the State will merit your careful consideration. The methods of treatment of pauperism, lunacy and crime—problems always intricate in their solution—have, during the present depression of business and the scarcity of employment. The poor should be dealt with justly and liberally; but the interests of the people require that no more aid should be given, nor for a longer period, than is actually necessary, lest imposture be fostered, efforts for self support be weakened and permanent paupers ensue. It is in this direction that the administration of public charities should be committed, by the State and by municipalities, to discreet and energetic persons, whose official proceedings shall be open to scrutiny. Were this always done, no person in Massachusetts need suffer for the necessaries of life, except those who are negligent to seek relief. The Board of State Charities is expected to watch all the institutions of charity and reform, and to recommend all necessary and advisable changes, in the numerous and difficult duties imposed by the statutes regulating charity and reform are administered by departments in which nearly all the power is locally vested, subject more or less to the negative of the Board.

For the details of the work of the year in these departments, the condition and needs of the institutions which the Board supervises, and its suggestions, I must refer you to its annual report, which will be duly transmitted, and which, in general, will recommend, as a measure of economy and reform, the consolidation of its own bureaus.

THE LICENSE LAW.

The last quarter of a century has been notable for the discussion of the subject of intemperance, and for the efforts to suppress this great vice by different forms of legislation. It is too late to render necessary any argument or demonstration of the evils of promiscuous dram-selling and drunkenness. These are well nigh universally admitted, and to a degree that exhibits them as the greatest source of poverty, of crime, and of misery and unhappiness with which society is afflicted; so that it is not only the duty of the Legislature, but the interest of the people, to adopt such means and measures as shall diminish the sum of these evils of intemperance; and it is over, this is not only a question of morals, but it has important relations also to the industrial and economic interest of the State. Nor would there be any reason to conclude that public opinion has become more tolerant of the evils of drunkenness, in consequence of the comparative failure of past discussion and legislation to diminish them. The people of Massachusetts, by a large majority, are no doubt strongly in favor of the utmost suppression of intemperance; and it is their duty, and of the law makers, to adopt measures as the well being of society demands on this as on other subjects. The vital question, therefore, is not whether we shall suppress more than we can, but whether we shall come together at last for an interchange of thought, as well as of merchandise; to rub off the asperities and jealousies which distance and separation engender, and to cultivate those friendly sentiments and that mutual esteem which may precede the beating of swords into ploughshares and of spears into pruning hooks.

The response to the call of our national government to join in this international display has been so general, that we may expect one of the most valuable and important collections of the objects of utility and beauty that has ever been gathered. The Legislature of last year appropriated the sum of fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of "securing at the Exhibition at Philadelphia a due representation of the different arts, industries, and institutions of this Commonwealth"; and in pursuance thereof, the Governor and Council appointed three Commissioners or agents to carry out the objects of the appropriation. This sum, perhaps, exhibits the extent to which the Legislature trusted in the pride and patriotism or the people of the Commonwealth, to enter by voluntary effort and contribution into such a representation as should be worthy of their attainments and of their renown. The Commissioners above referred to have been assiduous in the use of the means placed at their command; and those appointed by the national government have also made encouraging progress in securing the co-operation of manufacturers, mechanics and inventors, to prepare and forward specimens of their skill and handicraft.

The educational institutions of the State are preparing a thorough exhibit of their plan of operations, and I trust that the facilities for training the young for the service of life, by means of primary, high, normal and industrial schools, academies, institutes and colleges, will be completely represented. It is especially desirable that the organization of Massachusetts as a State should be accurately reported upon at this time in her history; and I would urge upon the officers having charge of the various departments of her civil economy to prepare the most thorough and elaborate illustrations of what the State has done and is doing, and the theory and plans upon which her efforts in this direction have been based.

I need hardly remind you, Senators and Representatives, that above and beyond the graphic industries of all nations and of every clime, there will be one suggestive and transcendent contribution to this grandest of Exhibitions—one element which surpasses the invention's cunning and the craftsman's skill, and which we gladly believe will survive when all the material monuments of human greatness have crumbled into dust or mouldered into decay; it is the life of this Republic; new-born every hour in the affections of the American people—strengthened and defended by increasing millions scattered over the acres of our vast domain—the inspiration of our patriotism; let it be also the sustaining hope of freedom and progress throughout the world.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 1876.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the New England Agricultural Society will be held at the MELONAON, under Tremont Temple, Boston, on

Tuesday, February 1st, 1876,

at twelve o'clock, M.

DANIEL NEEDHAM, Secretary.

Boston, January 15, 1876.

ENGLAND AND SUEZ.

So long as the Alabama claims remained unsettled, England felt under bonds to keep the peace, knowing that if she became a party to a foreign war her commerce from that moment was, according to her own construction, at the mercy of American privateers. Never was she so completely at the feet of the Government of the restored United States. But with the Alabama case finally settled, she is free again to consult her ambition and attend to her prestige among other nations. Disraeli was shrewd enough during our civil war to keep aloof from committing himself to the Southern Confederacy, as Gladstone mistakenly did, and now that he is Premier he fortunately finds it in his power to put England to the front once more in European affairs, by making a controlling purchase of the Suez Canal for her, which is equivalent to establishing her power permanently in Egypt.

This kind of courage on her behalf has been the historic habit of Toryism, and Disraeli has proved himself true to the tradition. He has made a brilliant move on the political board, confronting the three Imperial powers of Eastern Europe, and defying any one or all of them to wrest England from her position. He shows them that her navy is ready to meet them in the Bosphorus, and that her uncounted Indian troops can be relied on to defend the Suez Isthmus and the Nile valley to the last. With an English squadron in the Mediterranean and an Indian army at the Isthmus and along the Nile, no power in all Europe could expect to disturb the English in their strong position. It is a defiant one, and that is the reason why it has made so profound an impression on the mind of Europe. Russia could never send an army by land into Egypt. England holds India in her grasp at the Isthmus of Suez; on the other hand, India secures Egypt to England, with the Isthmus. It is a double lock. The Eastern Question is clearly to be the next one in Europe, and England, Russia, Austria and Germany will inevitably be parties to it. In the southern Latin nations alone is peace, which is likely to be unbroken. The necessities of France will keep her quiet for some time to come.

SOME STATISTICS.

At the opening of every business year we all would like to understand where we are. So a few facts and figures relative to business and the finances, which are of a more general sort, cannot but be as acceptable as instructive. The stock market during the year was a heavy one, the brokers dividing but meagre profits among themselves. At the very close of the year, among the important pieces of financial work, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company negotiated a loan in London successfully, for 1,350,000 pounds, and the Philadelphia Reading Railroad Company placed one for 2,000,000 pounds in the same market. It is said the loans were taken by the English public on the same day they were offered, which continues to show the favor in which first-class American securities stand. The effect of these loans has also been favorable for the price of gold and the condition of the money market.

The public debt was increased $1,915,000 during December, which reduces the total diminution of the debt during the last six months of 1875 to $8,856,531. The falling off in the customs, in consequence of the diminished consumption of foreign goods, accounts for this smaller decrease of the debt. During the year there has been a contraction in the legal tender notes, so that they now amount to but $371,827,000. In the matter of imports, there was a falling off for the eleven months ending Nov. 30th, 1875, of $45,918 000 as compared with the same months of 1874, and nearly $97,000,000 as compared with 1873. There was likewise a falling off in exports as compared with 1874, of $44,588,000, and of nearly $39,000,000 as compared with 1873. In gold, the exports for eleven months in 1875 exceed the imports $35,838,793, while for the same time in 1874 the exports led the imports $34,328,193; but in 1873 the imports exceeded the exports more than $22,000,000. The regular export trade in grain has been interfered with by some speculating rings. Very soon the laws of trade will go into operation again, and it is expected that a rise in prices in Europe will start the movement.

THE PENITENTIARY LINE.

When public morals are defined by what we may fairly call the penitentiary line, so that men practically insist on pursuing any course they choose for their own profit so that it does not take them legally across that line, it might as well be confessed that a deterioration and general lowering has taken place that puts the test of actual morality out of the question. "Are we not getting"—inquires a contemporary—"to a point at which an officer may defy public opinion until he reaches the very door of the penitentiary, and at which the most iridescent and reprehensible acts are tested, not by the unwritten code by which honorable men live, but by the criminal code as administered in courts of justice?" It certainly looks like it. What is honor, what is an instinctive sensitiveness to reproach, when the sole test and standard in transactions is whether a man is outside or inside the penitentiary?

There is a fundamental point in the matter of the reformation and renavation through which the country has got to pass. If the right standard is lost, all is lost. It is as notorious a fact as it is a lamentable one, that a great many men, in public and private life both, simply defy the criticism of others in reference to their conduct, challenging them to prove all that they can. This shows that the definitions of the statute are their only standard of rectitude. If they can escape the law, though it be by deceit and evasion, it is all the same to them as if they had fulfilled the strictest requirements of honor. It is the wide spread of this low tone of sentiment that has justly alarmed our public teachers and the reflecting minds in the community. They wonder how we are to get back upon the firm ground of honesty again, and if anything less than the working of a miracle can effect the salutary change. When the penitentiary line becomes the moral line, and society becomes so indifferent or so corrupted as to accept it, we may as well confess that we are in extremities indeed.

CENTENNIAL "LOG HOUSE."

Our readers will remember our late appeal to our Agricultural Societies, in behalf of the log house project, to represent an ancient home—in our Philadelphia Centennial exhibition—and to be called "A New England farmer's home of one hundred years ago," which it has been hoped might be mentioned in the official catalogue as "built by New England farmers." And we are glad to be able to announce the first response after the annual meetings—as coming from Berkshire Agricultural Society; offering one hundred dollars, and asking what other Western Societies will do; and to that question we hope for ready responses from Berkshire's compatriots. Now that the bidding has commenced, who will be the next to respond? If ten of our large societies will follow Berkshire's example, the desired end will be attained.

The log house will consist of one large living room, twenty-five feet by twenty, for which all the needed ancient furnishing is prepared, and several ladies are prepared also, to carry on the various details of home life, such as spinning, quilting, knitting and netting, and there will also be a bedroom suitably arranged, and in connection with the ancient-like, old-fashioned dinners are proposed, thus making a peculiarly farmer's affair of it; and as it is entirely independent of the general women work for the Centennial, and being pushed forward under many difficulties, we sincerely hope that our agricultural part of the State will take this matter up and provide the means to put the building up, then it will be run without any further call upon them, and be always open to the public as our farmer's contribution to the State work.

The Granges at Worcester.—The Worcester County Council, consisting of the several Granges of Worcester County assembled at Horticultural Hall, Worcester, Jan. 12th. About six hundred of the members were in attendance with delegations from the Granges in Worcester, Barre, Auburn, Paxton, Phillipston, Sterling, Harvard, Holden, Grafton, Warren, West Brookfield, Spencer, Princeton, Hardwick, Petersham and Charlton. They met in council to consult together in reference to their common interests, which are ramified through the entire farming community. The following were the officers elected:

President, O. B. Hadwen, of Worcester, Grange 1st; Vice President, Edward Sawyer, Sterling, Grange 24; Vice President, H. E. Rice, Barre Grange; Secretary, Dwight Estabrook, Paxton Grange; Treasurer, Thomas S. Eaton, Auburn Grange; Steward, Samuel Chamberlain, Holden Grange; Assistant-Steward, J. B. Sibley, Stratton Grange.

During the session Wednesday morning interesting addresses were made by Messers. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester Grange, Ledyard Bill of Paxton Grange, John W. Hicks of Auburn Grange and James Draper of Worcester Grange. There were also select readings by Miss Ella Newton of Auburn Grange, and excellent singing by the glee club of the Worcester Grange, the choir of the Paxton Grange and the quartette of the Auburn Grange. At half past 12 a farmer's dinner was served in the upper hall.

In the afternoon addresses were made by Col. Smedley of Iowa, lecturer of the National Grange; Thaddeus Graves of Hatfield, master of the Massachusetts State Grange, and Benj. P. Ware of Marblehead, chairman of the State Executive Committee, the chorus club furnishing the music. Supper was provided in the upper hall at seven o'clock.

Hon. Daniel Needham who was advertised to deliver an address in the afternoon, was detained as a witness in an important Bank case before the United States Court. Col. Needham's absence occasioned universal disappointment and regret, but was absolutely unavoidable.

The evening session began at eight o'clock with an address by a granger scarcely three years old, who created a great deal of merriment. George H. Rice of Worcester was announced as toast master, and gave as the first toast "Welcome," which was responded to by the president, O. B. Hadwen. "The Grange" was responded to by Thaddeus Graves of Hatfield. Responses followed the several toasts announced, by Col. Smedley of Iowa, Joseph Chamberlin, of Westboro, James Draper of Worcester, Benj. P. Ware of Marblehead, and Gen. Noyes of Boston.

The young folks of the Worcester Grange then presented a dramatic entertainment, consisting of the farces of the "Duchess of Dublin" and "A Little More Cider," which were both well received by the audience. The exercises were interspersed with music by the North Oxford Cornet Band, D. A. Wood leader, and by the ladies and gentlemen connected with the order. At eleven o'clock the meeting adjourned with the sentiment that the reunion had been the most successful of any yet held in this State.

The conventions and meetings of the Granges in this State show that the order is living and ready for work and resolute for progress. Mutual benefit is the thought uppermost in them all. The farming districts receive from them fresh and active influences, that move them out of the ruts of habit and effectually stir up their latent sociality. In political circles, as well as in others, the working of the principles of purity, good, and their counsels are every where regarded with high respect. It is as a social force in the farming community that they are to be supported, after they have done all that is possible for the improvement of the farmer's condition. Everything that brings the people on the farms together in free and familiar converse is to be applauded. The meeting of the Worcester Granges furnished one of the happiest illustrations of a truth not often enough thought of.

Chicago all Right—We are glad to learn that Chicago is all right, and that Baltimore is everybody knows already. Although the exhibit of her business for last year shows a falling off in the produce and provision trade, the aggregate increase of the business of 1875 over that of 1874 was $20,000,000. Chicago packed 6,000,000 hogs of the year, and received 75,000 head of cattle more in 1875 than in 1874. A gain of ten per cent was made in the iron and steel business. During the year 975 building permits were granted, and the buildings erected cost in the aggregate $9,778,080, which is almost double the cost of the building in 1874. There was a falling off of 16,000,000 bushels in the receipts of corn and wheat, but that is ascribed to causes that operate in the neighboring territory. The value of the hogs packed was nearly $38,000,000. On the whole, this will do for Chicago.

The La Page Trial.—The judicial trial of this Canadian Frenchman at Concord, N. H., for the atrocious murder of Josie Langmaid last autumn, has been proceeding some days of last week and this, and is now brought to a close by the time our present issue reaches its readers. This week the prisoner's defence was taken up, his counsel having resolved to base it on the plea of an *alibi*. The chain of circumstantial evidence forged by the Government against the prisoner is generally regarded as sufficiently strong to convict him, unless he shall succeed in proving the impossibility of his having been in the locality of the murder at the time it was committed. The belief of the community appears to be that he is the real murderer—that no other person was or was likely to be. It would be a mild pity if the cause of justice in this instance found itself baffled, when the very security of the neighborhood of this crime, and of all other similar neighborhoods, is involved in the success of the present investigation.

Charlie Ross.—The boy at St. Albans whose appearance so exactly corresponds to Charlie Ross, and who readily names his playmates at school and recognizes the photographs of men, women and children in the Ross neighborhood, was the object of unwonted excitement at that place as well as at Philadelphia, and in fact over the country generally. Mr. Ross's unwillingness to come on and see the boy was introduced as another element in the mystery. The theory that was raised against the identity of the boy was, that a gang of scoundrels had trained a young chap to answer these precise questions, to tell of these precise persons, and to identify these precise photographs, in order to secure the reward offered for his restoration. They of course would have to cook up a boy properly, to answer all the requirements of the description in point of marks, and so forth. The dull times are a sufficient warrant for the exercise of so devilish an ingenuity. It would be better to be slow in judging of the conduct of the father of the lost boy.

The Russian Wheat Trade.—The accounts from Odessa announce an unprecedented stagnation in trade, with failures, the destruction of credits, and stores of wheat still on hand. The derangement of commercial machinery has much to do with this, but the sharp competition of the trade in American wheat has more. The Moscow *Gazette* produces statistics that show that our wheat traffic is rapidly cutting that of Russia entirely out of the open ports of Great Britain. But further facts demonstrate that, according to the returns of British imports for 1875, the proportion of American wheat imported into Great Britain was 54 per cent. of the whole, while that of Russia fell short of 20 per cent. The very reverse of this was formerly the case. The British import of American wheat, in fact, now stands, according to the financial writer for the London *Times*, about where the import of Russian wheat was in 1867. The tables have been turned, and there is consequent distress in Russia. But Russia's total wheat exports have not decreased; on the contrary, they have increased; but American wheat exports have increased much faster.

BOSTON'S RICH MEN.—Boston has a few men who, in view of the taxes they are obliged to pay, may be considered wealthy. The largest payers are the Sears estate and the Fifty Associates. Among them are assessments as follows:—Moses Williams, $2 531 400; H. Hollis Hunnewell, $1,716,700; John A. Lowell, $1,405 400; William Minot, Jr., $1,183,600; James Parker, $1 095,500; Frederick R. Sears, $1,262,200; Henry R. Williams, $1,032 600; Arioch Wentworth, $1,022 400; William W. Tucker, $1,181 900 Charles Francis Adams is assessed for $856 000.

☞ The movement in furtherance of the proposed representation of Boston at the Centennial regatta in Philadelphia is progressing favorably.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES—1876.

SENATE.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Judiciary—Messrs. Robinson of Hampden, Dacey of Suffolk, Bowman of Middlesex, E. Robinson of Plymouth and Shores of Berkshire.

Probate and Chancery—Messrs. Robinson of Hampden, Higgins of the Cape and E. Robinson of Plymouth.

Treasury—Messrs. Cumming of Middlesex, Belcher of Norfolk and Livingston of Middlesex.

Bills in Third Reading—Messrs. Fuke of Norfolk, Fitz General of Suffolk, Bowman of Essex, Mayhew of Franklin and Wing of Bristol.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Belcher of Norfolk, Ayers of Worcester and Neal of Essex.

Leave of Absence—Messrs. Ayers of Worcester, Bates of Worcester and Shores of Berkshire.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Agriculture—Messrs. Harwood of Middlesex, and Tripp of Bristol.

Banks and Banking—Messrs. Cumming of Middlesex, Brimhall of Worcester, and Parker of Middlesex.

Claims—Messrs. Davis of Essex, H. W. Robinson of Plymouth, and Palmer of Norfolk.

Education—Messrs. Sargent of Middlesex, and Crane of Suffolk.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Palmer of Norfolk, and Davis of Worcester.

Fisheries—Messrs. Higgins of the Cape and Howes of Essex.

Harbors—Messrs. Fitz of Suffolk, Howard of the Island, and Wing of Bristol.

Insurance—Messrs. Hunt of Norfolk, and Stadman of Suffolk.

Library—Messrs. Sargent of Middlesex, Wing of Bristol, and Shores of Berkshire.

Manufactures—Messrs. Lakin of Essex, and Livingston of Middlesex.

Mercantile Affairs—Messrs. Crane of Suffolk, Ayers of Worcester and Bland of Middlesex.

Military Affairs—Messrs. Fiske of Norfolk, Davis of Essex and Wilson of Berkshire.

Parishes and Religious Societies—Messrs. Belcher of Norfolk and Sargent of Middlesex.

Prentices—Messrs. Fitz of Suffolk and Bland of Middlesex.

Prisons—Messrs. Howard of the Island, Flatley of Suffolk and Tripp of Bristol.

Public Charitable Institutions—Messrs. Stadman of Suffolk, Belcher of Norfolk and Harwood of Middlesex.

Public Lands—Messrs. Bates of Worcester and Mayhew of Franklin.

Railroads—Messrs. Palmer of Norfolk, Haynes of Hamsden and Davis of Worcester.

Rivers and Bridges—Messrs. Howes of Essex and Gaylord of Hampden.

State House—Messrs. H. W. Robinson of Plymouth and Flatley of Suffolk.

Street Railroads—Messrs. Hunt of Norfolk, Brown of Essex and Flatley of Suffolk.

Towns—Messrs. Gilmodo of Bristol and Weston of Berkshire.

Water Supply and Drainage—Messrs. Haynes of Hampden, Neal of Essex and Parker of Middlesex.

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Hoosac Tunnel Railroad—Messrs. Lakin of Middlesex, Mayhew of Franklin, and Fitz of Suffolk.

Liquor Law—Messrs. Stadman of Suffolk, Gilmodo of Bristol, and Bates of Worcester.

Bureau of Statistics—Messrs. Brown of Essex, Higgins of the Cape, and Fitzgerald of Suffolk.

Constitutional Amendments—Messrs. Robinson of Hampden, Dacey of Suffolk, Bowman of Middlesex, E. Robinson of Plymouth, and Shores of Berkshire.

Female Suffrage—Messrs. Neal of Essex, Gilmodo of Bristol, and Fiske of Norfolk.

Redistributing the Districts—Messrs. Crane of Suffolk, Howes of Essex, Harwood of Middlesex, Brimhall of Worcester, H. W. Robinson of Plymouth, Gaylord of Hampshire, and Wilson of Berkshire.

HOUSE.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Judiciary—

rgent sold 35 sheep, averaging 96 lbs,
lb.
y for sold 86 sheep, averaging 70 lbs,

ongrant sold 61 head, all lambs,
ds lbs, at 6¢ @ 6¢ lb.
y sold 36 sheep, averaging 95 lbs,
o Cornell Bros.
REMARKS.—The improved markets
ck has been very acceptable to own-
been up hill work to sell stock the
eks, and some dealers got desperate
ording to all accounts. It came to
ers dimmer to lose between $4000 and
sday, which, in connection with
It is hoped the worst is over
y the least, steady selling a while.
ortizer.

ALBANY MARKET.

he market ruled rather stronger than
ber because there were more buyers, and
ot compelled to divide the last half cent on
attle. The offerings were just what was
they were taken more freely and with less
ver selected "lots" were taken from native
t 7c, but the bulk of the sales were at
e from 5@6c lb lb, live weight. The best
to 12c, and the poorest down to 4c, but
be obtained at that price.
The following are the receipts of the
ds, taken from the several Railroad yeg-
albany:

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Hogs.
	80	9	9
	87	5	19
	87	6	16
	16	12	18
	3	8	27
	81	14	147
R. R.	—	—	—
	274	51	110

gs a comparative statement of the re-
market for the last week, ending noon
vious, estimating Cattle 17 head to the
, and Hogs 100:

	This week.	Last week.	Totals since January 1.
	1,158	4,133	4,668
	3,125	6,850	10,000
	11,900	8,000	11,900

ur table a comparative value to corre-
ruling rate of the market this week:

	This week.	Last week.
	6 75 @7 50	6 50 @7 50
	6 00 @6 50	6 00 @6 50
	5 50 @6 00	5 50 @6 00
	4 50 @5 25	4 50 @5 25
	3 00 @4 25	3 00 @4 25
	2 00 @3 25	2 00 @3 25

ere is very dull, with few buy-
low prices. There were about twenty
our previous market, which were disposed
prices in a retail way, at $4 50 @5 00 per
d milkers.
ange.—We quote as the ruling: Sheep,
@5½c; fair to good do, 4½@5c; Lambs,
Lambs, common to fair, 6@6½c; fair to
and choice, 7@7½c.

CATTLE MARKET.

ere was a decided falling off in the
ings the past week, while the general
er the market for the last half of the
considerable improvement was noticed
e trades to the middle of the week, and
ers were disposed to take hold. The offer-
ge graded bullocks were quite restricted,
ers were little better than nominal at
ge range of $4 25@4 62½ per hundred
range of $4 25@4 62½ for medium to good
ers, and 4 75@5 25 for good to choice
ers, with a few extra at 5½@5¾c.
arket for the present week opened fairly
e receipts, and, at both good, high and
ers were sold at a range of $7 00@7 50 per
ere were also a few extra choice steers
choice heavy and assorted stopping
and packing at $6 70@6 90.
ket for milch cows opened quite ranging at
choice heavy $75@85 for fair to
@80 for inferior to common.—*Prairie*

Expressly for the Ploughman

KITCHEN MARKET.

the week ending, Jan. 13.

RETAIL PRICES.

QUINCY MARKET.

Beef, &c.

E. Holden & Son, Nos. 49 & 51.

	20 @25	Mutton, legs	14 @25
	12 @14	Mutton, shoulder	8 @14
	12 @15		

tter, Cheese, &c.

C. Chamberlin & Co., Nos. 79 & 81

	35 @38	Fair to good	30 @32
	28 @32	Common	25 @28
	25 @26	Factory	22 @24
	20 @25	Eastern	26 @26
	25 @25	Northern	26 @26
	25 @25	Western	25 @25

ality, Game, &c.

W. Reddings, Nos. 53 & 55.

	60 @1 00	Partridges, pr	60 @1 00
	15 @ —	Pigeons, doz	— @ —
	25 @ —	Rabbits	25 @ —
	12 @ —	Ducks, Mallard	— @ —
	75 @ —	per pair	— @ —
	50 @ —	Teal, per pair	— @ —
	50 @ —	Coupe, per doz	— @ —
	10 @ —	Woodcock, per pr	75 @1 00
	10 @ —	Venison, by the pc	10 @ —
	10 @ —	Grouse, pair	87 @1 00
	10 @ —	Geese	50 @ 00

Fish, &c.

Walker & Rich, Nos. 113 & 117.

	10 @ —	Mackerel, Spanish	— @ —
	10 @ —	Oysters, solid	— @ 1 00
	10 @ —	Shad	12 @ 20
	10 @ —	Pickerel, lb	10 @ 15
	10 @ —	Halibut	— @ —
	10 @ —	Salmon, lb	40 @ 50
	10 @ —	Salmon, pickled	30 @ 40
	17 @ —	Smoked	20 @ 25
	10 @ —	Finnan Haddies	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Cod, fresh	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Cod, dry	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Cusk	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Haddock	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Halibut, fresh	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Halibut, smoked	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Herring, fresh, per doz	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Herring, pickled	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Herring, smoked	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Mackerel, fresh	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Mackerel, salted	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Perch	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Pickerel	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Pike	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Pollock	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Salmon, fresh	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Salmon, salted	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Shad	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Shiners	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Smelts	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Trout	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Whitefish	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Perches and	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Eels	10 @ 12½
	10 @ —	Clams	10 @ 12½

ruit and Vegetables.

Avery & Maynard, No. 97 & 99.

	50 @ —	Oranges, per box	9 00 @10 00
	00 @ —	Messina, box	3 00 @ 3 00
	75 @ —	Onions, bush	1 00 @ —
	00 @ —	Potatoes, bbl	1 75 @ —
	00 @ —	Hubb.	— @ —
	00 @ —	per cwt	— @ 1 25
	00 @ —	Pickles, bbl	9 00 @10 00
	00 @ —	per barrel	— @ —
	00 @ —		— @ 3 00
	00 @ —		— @ 2 50

HAY MARKET.

RETAIL.

	00 @ —		25 @ 27 00
	00 @ —		17 @ 18 00

D MARKET.

ck & Son, 51 North Market S

	20 @ —	Hungarian Grass	— @ —
	10 @ —	Reed, bush	1 50 @ 2 00
	— @ —	Millet, bush	1 50 @ 2 00
	50 @ —	Red Top, sack	4 00 @ 4 50
	00 @ —	R. I. Bent Grass	— @ —
	— @ —	bush	3 00 @ 3 50
	00 @ —	Winter Rye, @	— @ —
	50 @ —	bush	— @ 1 75
	— @ —	Wheat, Spring	— @ —
	— @ —	@ bush	2 00 @ 2 00
	— @ —	Orchard Grass, @ bush	— @ 3 00

READ AND RUN

—Fits James Stephens, one of the most distinguished of English jurists, gives it as his opinion that in case the dynamite fiend, Thomassen, had not taken his own life, the tribunals of Germany could have inflicted on him only the punishment of imprisonment. Such atrocious crime as his happens to lie outside the code of law instituted by civilization.

—Dr. Samuel G. Howe, a well known philanthropist and the head of the Blind Asylum, at South Boston, who made a marked record by teaching the blind and deaf and dumb Laura Bridgeman to read and exercise her sealed-up intelligence, died at his residence at *South Boston, on Sunday last*, at the age of *seventy-four years*. *His* loss will be profoundly felt by the community as well as by his *personal* friends.

—The Russian exports of wheat to England have exactly changed *figures* with the American exports of the same article. We have gained rapidly *upon* her grain trade with Great Britain. *Agriculture* continually proves itself our *strong reliance*.

—A New York police court has recently revealed one of the most striking romances of the day, in the shape of a couple of young persons from Europe. They were married in the court room, and she immediately turned away and left him to his reflections.

—Washington is working to secure one or both of the National political Conventions this year.

—There were fourteen candidates for the *privilege* of keeping the restaurant of the House of Representatives at Washington.

—Krupp's famous cannon foundry in Prussia has received an order from the Spanish Government for six heavy steel cannon, to be sent to Cuba.

—Harrison Grambo, the hero of the grand financial explosion in Philadelphia two or three years ago, died recently in that city, a young man still. He began his career of speculation with but one thousand dollars,

—The advanced rate of freights from New York to the West, namely, seventy-five cents a hundred for first class freights, went into operation on Monday last.

—The Grand Jury at Biddeford, Me., thought it was doing a pretty lively business in returning forty-five indictments in a single batch.

—Over twenty-three thousand Mormon women have forwarded a petition to Congress for the establishment of a State Government.

—Four hundred workmen were discharged from the Charlestown Navy Yard on Saturday.

—The Ohio Legislature is thinking of making it "flat burglary," to invade a corn-crib or a poultry house in the night time.

—The churches appealed to in the case of Mrs. Moulton against Mr. Beecher have all accepted their invitations.

—The Connecticut River has been opened all the way from Hartford to Long Island Sound.

—Lord Carrington, one of the Prince of Wales's party in India, broke his collar bone while out on a pig-sticking expedition with the party.

—A train of railroad cars plunged down an embankment near Odessa, in Russia, after which it took fire and sixty-eight persons were killed and fifty-four wounded.

—The laboring classes in Montreal are undergoing a great deal of suffering this winter.

—Their friends and sympathizers in England are raising money to aid the persecuted priests in Germany.

—Confidence reviving in New York, the business skies are brightening, and the expectation is firm and strong that the Spring will bring a greatly increased volume of trade. The accounts from all parts of the country are much more cheering.

—The old frigate Macedonian, captured from the British by Commodore Decatur in the war of 1812, will be placed on exhibition during the Centennial. How pleased our British cousins will be to see a relic of that sort.

—One night last week, a gang of burglars entered the town of St. Joseph, Mo., and dragged and robbed nearly all the families in the town. These fellows will be reserving county rights for sale, by and by.

—The winter fishing off the coast of Maine has amounted to so small a result that it is pronounced a failure.

—New Orleans is trying to practise all its former lightness of heart and gaiety of manners while staggering under an inherited debt of twenty-one millions. It suggests that the whole burden be scaled, at an average figure of sixty per cent.

—*Wrestling matches* are in vogue. We have had two of them in a week in this city, in public halls.

—The Eastern Railroad has at length been *put* in a way, it is believed, of getting relief and becoming a profitable corporation again.

—Bellin's Bower, in this city, has begun again to give free dinners to working girls. A great many such need them badly.

—A laboring man in Brooklyn has died with hydrophobia, from the bite of a cat on his nose about the middle of last October.

—Affairs in France over the pending Assembly elections are decidedly squally.

—Eulogies were pronounced in Congress on the late ex-President Johnson, last Tuesday.

—The city banks mostly elected their boards of directors on Tuesday.

—A bill is being considered by the Judiciary Committee of the National House of Representatives, which extends the Presidential term to six years and forbids re-election.

—An injuction has been served on the West Boston Savings Bank.

—Francis Gardiner, long the head-master of the Latin School in this city, died on Monday last, after an illness of several months.

—The Socage of New Hampshire held their State Convention on Wednesday.

—The crew of the schooner *Jefferson* Borden, just arrived out in England, have made complaint against the Captain for cruelty and for withholding their wages. Two men are in the Maine State Prison for life, for having committed two murders under the same Captain.

—They are having all the snow in Europe this winter, while we are having none.

—Ex-Mayor Oakey Hall, of New York, took leave of the stage on Saturday night last, saying that it was vain for him to try to throw off the legal harness, for he must die with it on.

—Tweed's lawyers keep stirring, but little or nothing is heard of Tweed.

—Capt. Downing, of Newport, R. I., the oldest Odd Fellow in the world, died last week, at the great age of 101 years and 10 months.

—The principal Sound steamers to and from New York have reduced their fares for passengers, so that one can now go to the commercial emporium by way of Stonington or Fall River for four dollars.

—The war of the people of New York against the monopoly gas companies is waging vigorously, with every prospect that the companies will succumb.

—The citizens of Claremont, N. H., are about to have a first-class hotel constructed in that pleasant village in time for next summer's visitors.

—Gen. Burgoyne's original order to Col. Baum, the Hessian, to proceed to Bennington and destroy the patriot stores accumulated there, in 1777, is in possession of the widow of Hon. Horace Everett, long a member of Congress from Vermont. The document is called for as an appropriate feature in the coming Centennial celebration of the battle, next August.

—By the purchase of the Canada Southern, Commodore Vanderbilt has in his control an unbroken line of railway from New York to the West. He can therefore make freight cost pretty nearly what he likes.

—Citizens who have crowded up their dwellings around Bangor ask to be set off now as a new town.

—Prairie grass is being placed in the horse cars of the Metropolitan Railroad Company, in place of the colder straw heretofore in use.

—George Young has been connected with the hotel bearing his name in this city for twenty-five years.

—The prospect steadily increases of the possibility of making the passage between England and France underground, leaving the channel and its sea sickness overhead.

—The stories from Florida tell of the eagerness with which people are fanning themselves there. We can almost do the same thing here, this winter.

—The ice men freeze to their business now, though there is precious little freezing for that business.

—It is suggested that, as this is Leap Year, the bachelors should make a point of holding receptions.

—A Detroit hero claims the merit of having rescued one hundred persons from drowning.

—The Turkish soldiers are suffering severely with the cold, and numbers of them have frozen to death.

—North Carolina and Canada both claim the honor of a simultaneous visit from the vagrant Tweed.

—The newly reported Pension Appropriation Bill appropriates for the next year upwards of $25,000,000.

—The Ways and Means Committee has reported a bill for the resumption of specie payments.

—An Indiana whiskey dealer, under indictment, has died from nervous excitement about the result of the charges brought against him.

The Legislature.—This body has so comfortably settled down to its work, the several Committees being appointed and all sides appearing satisfied with things as far as they have gone. These committees named comprise the standing, joint standing, and joint special. The several topics that form the body of the Governor's Message have been duly referred, and matters are now in readiness for the early motion of the legislative machinery. Very little *allusion* has been made to the length of the *session*, the Message not even touching on it. The *Legislature*, using the railroads as freely as it *does*, has come to regard Boston as a very agreeable winter residence, and it is scarcely to be wondered at that it takes a sight of springing grass to set in motion the annual desire of distant members to view the changes of Nature in the meadows and fields. There is probably not great use of expecting much of a change in the length of the sessions at present.

The Condition of the Tunnel.—An article of a somewhat elaborate character appeared in the Springfield *Republican*, the other day, whose design it was to show that the Hoosac Tunnel, now that it was finished, was incapable of ventilation, while the collection of smoke and vapor from passing trains in one section of it was likely to be so great as to impede the trains themselves and greatly to incommode passengers. Add to this, it is stated that the grade from the centre to either entrance, which was purposely made steep in order to insure the necessary drainage, promises to make it exiremely difficult for engines to draw freight trains through, particularly when the rails are also gummed up from the effect of collecting smoke and vapors. It is asserted that stationary engines will have to be constantly employed at each entrance. These are said to be the deliberate views of experienced and competent engineers, and for that reason they must challenge serious consideration.

The College Regattas.—Hereafter these summer boating encounters are to be conducted without the help of Yale, while Harvard has given notice of intention to withdraw after another year's contest. So that practically, Columbia perhaps excepted, the struggle will be a fresh water affair. This is to be regretted, inasmuch as the interest in these annual regattas was widening and it was naturally expected that they would ultimately establish the sport as a liberal institution for the country. Both Yale and Harvard are freely criticised for going out of the list in the way they have done. The common remark is, that they could have done so with much better grace if they had either of them been able to carry off the colors with them. There is a prickling virtue in criticism of this sort. The Agricultural and Cornell have stepped in and taught their older and prouder rivals a lesson which it seems the latter do not relish the task of learning at their hands. The talk about "rowing the winner" is not the thing at all, until they are winners themselves.

Bread Riots.—Some unemployed workmen in Albany have been attempting to rival the stirring performances of the workmen in Quebec, by forming a procession and marching through the streets, bearing banners inscribed with the threatening motto—"Bread or Work." Now it is just as certain that they could get work if work was to be had, as that they could get bread by the proceeds of that work. But how they, by their menacing demonstrations, are going to force the plain law of demand and supply to suspend its operation for their simple convenience, is what they of course have never thought of. Employment comes from capital only when it is profitable; but it must be profitable for the employer as well as for the employed. There is no such arbitrary arrangement about this matter as the devices on the workmen's banners would seem to imply. These are times that hold capital as well as labor tight and fast in their grip. If there was any way of cutting the knot, others than unemployed workmen would be glad to know what it is.

The Model Hospital.—The Governors of Massachusetts and New York happen to be of one mind, in their recent Messages, on the subject of such extravagant expenditures in the construction of buildings required for the uses of Public Charities. For that matter, extravagance has for a course of years marked the expenditures for all classes of public buildings. But it is possible, in this new era of iron and glass, when faith in air and sunshine is likewise on the increase, to realize one sort of public building at moderate cost. An English sanitarian has been giving his views to the public on the subject of the ideal city, along with which he presents a sketch of the Model Hospital, to which the five per cent. of every thousand of the population that will there die may be taken and saved. It is to be airy, small, glass roofed, with wide pavilions; and there are to be many of them in the ideal city, easily taken apart and thoroughly disinfected, and surrounded with gardens, and having day sitting-rooms. The people of the future have much in store for them, which makes one desire to prolong his existence till their time.

Girls in Greek.—One point has been established for the intellectual capacity of the other sex by the result of the recent intercollegiate contest for scholarship. Among all the contestants for prizes from the several colleges there was but one girl, and she was from Cornell—the same institution that carried off the boating laurels last year at Saratoga. Her name is Miss Julia Thomas. Now she is humorously styled by the detested young fellows "the Greek Slave," and they likewise declare that it could not be expected of them "that they should know Greek like one from Ithaca," and so on. But the triumph is well worth recording. There must be something in the literature and culture of Greece that possesses a fascination for the female mind. There is Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who has always been powerfully attracted to the study of Greek literature and philosophy. It is the beginning of wisdom in all that pertains to letters and art, and the feminine intuition goes straight to it and there finds its rich reward.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

ENGAGEMENTS OF AMERICAN HORSES IN EUROPE.

London, Jan. 8.—The following are the more important engagements made for American horses in England: Freakness will run in the international handicap at Newmarket and for the Ascot cup; Bay Eagle will run for the Prince of Wales stakes at Epsom and for the Bretby plate at Newmarket; Bay Vinal will run in the city and suburban, the metropolitan and for the Alexandria plate at Sandown park; Mate will run in the Newmarket handicap and also in the city and suburban; the colt Egotist will run for the Ascot new stakes. The colt Brown Prince will not run till later in the year.

THE WAR IN CUBA.

Madrid, Jan. 8.—The Spanish government has ordered from Herr Krupp's foundry at Essein six eleven inch breach-loading steel cannon with 600 rounds of ammunition, for delivery at Cuba at the earliest moment. The contract has been made at the special request of Gen. Jovellar.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

Madrid, Jan. 9.—An official despatch has been received here, which states that a Spanish man-of-war has captured a vessel under the German flag, laden with contraband of war. The Cronista is confident that the Government will not accept the resignation of Senor Rubi, financial commissioner of Cuba. The same journal reports that the wife of Gen. Tristany, a noted Carlist leader, has informed the Spanish ambassador at Paris that her husband will declare allegiance to King Alfonso if he is allowed to retain his military rank. The Madrid government has not yet decided what answer to make.

THE SPANISH QUESTION.

London, Jan. 10.—The Pall Mall Gazette has an article on the Spanish question in which it ridicules the leading article of the Times. The writer says: "We cannot avoid the suspicion that if a more powerful country than Spain was neglecting the performance of her international duties, the Times would not have adopted such a tone. We are unable to see any more creditable reason for resorting to it in this case than Spain's inability to resent it.

PRESENT ASPECT OF THE CABINET CRISIS IN FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 11.—A cabinet meeting was held to-day, at which the proposed electoral programme of the ministry was discussed, and another council was appointed for to-morrow morning, when it is expected an agreement will be arrived at favorable to continuance in office of the present cabinet entire.

THE TURKISH INSURRECTION.

London, Jan. 12.—The Times's despatch from Ragusa reports that Servier Pasha has been reappointed special commissioner at Mostar. Chefket Pasha and Nedjib Pasha will return to Constantinople. Over three hundred soldiers have been frozen to death near Douza, and many are in hospital from frost bite.

A despatch from Vienna to the Daily News says the Porte intends to confine the reforms proposed by the European powers to Herzegovina, thus avoiding trouble with the incensed Mahometan majority in Bosnia.

CENTENNIAL NOTES.

☞ The Massachusetts State Centennial Commission was appointed in September of last year. As the time for receiving applications for space ceased on the last day of October, the Commissioners had only a month and a half in which to do their work of issuing circulars and receiving applications. Up to the time of their appointment about 215 applications had been made direct to Philadelphia, through the State Manager, Dr. Loring. The applications now number 913. These only include exhibitors for business pursuits, with the exception of a few made by the Commissioners for a representation of special articles. The department of art, education and manure is not included in the above. Articles in this department are contributed directly through the commission.

☞ The street railroads of Philadelphia are beginning to arrange for the centennial business. Six of them will run cars to the exposition grounds, and they are preparing to start one every minute, if it shall be found necessary, making 400 cars arriving every hour. The capacity of these cars will be 8800 persons seated, 16,000 crowded, and 24,000 packed. Other facilities for reaching the grounds will be provided, and the number of persons that may be carried to the exposition every day will be 190,000. The fare for the round trip will be 12 1-2 cents.

☞ A proposition is afloat for each of the students of the Institute of Technology as desire to go as a battalion to the Centennial and "camp out," the school restaurateu furnishing the meals. The expenses for a two weeks' stay have been estimated at a very low figure, and many of the students will doubtless avail themselves of the opportunity. The Institute will contribute largely to the Centennial in the matter of drawings, plants, designs, etc.

☞ The centennial mania has come down to Lewiston. Our ladies begin to wear the tall, ancient combs, their grandmother's heirloom. An Auburn lady wore one at the concert last night, which *interacta* she informed her next door neighbor her mother wore just forty years before at her wedding. —*Lewiston Journal.*

FATHER HYACINTHE.—It is stated that Father Hyacinthe is about to make this country his future home, and will become pastor of a church in Boston. He is now forty-nine years old. His first outspoken work of heresy was in 1869, in a lecture before the International League of Peace, in which he spoke of the Jewish religion, the Catholic and the Protestant as being "the three great religions of civilized peoples." From this he went further and further, until 1872, when he married Mrs. Merimon in London, Dean Stanley officiating. Since then, he has had a sort of church at Geneva, but does not appear to have had a strong following.

ALL THE WORK OF AN EDITOR.—The plan of making England the purchaser of the Khedive's interest in the Suez Canal, and its practical control, for the $20,000,000, was substantially the work of Mr. Frederick Greenwood, editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and one of the most capable of London journalists. The memorandum drawn up by him setting forth the arguments in its favor is said to have made a deep impression on Mr. Disraeli, and secured his adhesion.

WE DIRECT THE ATTENTION

Of our readers to the increasing popularity of the medical treatment pursued at the Peabody Medical Institute, 4 Bulfinch St. Boston, Mass., in dealing with diseases, such as Exhausted Vitality, Premature Decline in Men, Errors and Physical Debility, Hypochrondria bordering on Insanity and diseases arising from the Errors of Youth, or the Indiscretions and Excesses of Mature Years. The Consulting Physicians who have successfully treated thousands of the human family afflicted with these maladies, are in constant attendance, and give their whole attention to patients, and those who call for advice. The grand secret of their success, is the vast knowledge of the causes of these ailments, and rapidly restoring them from the Constitution.

The reception of the three books of which the Chief Consulting Physician is the author, by the Public, is entirely owing to their clear and forcible style, and the solemn truths they contain. The work the "Science of Life, or Self Preservation," a Medical Treatise on the cause and cure of Exhausted Vitality, Premature Decline in Man, &c, should be in the hands of the Young, middle aged, and those of more Mature Years, as it fully explains what vitally concerns them. Price $1,00, "The Sexual Physiology of Woman and her Diseases," or woman treated of Physiologically and Pathologically, from infancy to old age, should be studied by the single or married of either sex. Price $2,00. It is presumed that few if any, will withhold from themselves the pleasure and profit of thoroughly and fearlessly investigating with this truly masterful work, from the pen of so eminent a medical writer

The latest work entitled Diseases of the Nervous System, or "Pathology of the Nerves and Nervous Maladies," is repiete with sound, sensible advice, and can easily be comprehended. and is the only work of the kind that fills the desideratum so long needed. Price $2,00.

All three of these valuable works mailed to any address postage paid on receipt of Price, $4,00.

The Consulting Physicians may be consulted on all the above named subjects treated on in these works, daily from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

THE STOCK MARKET.

State Street at 3 P. M., Jan. 12, 1876.

	CURRENT	ASKED
American Gold	113¾	113
Boston Land Co	6¾	6¾
Boston Water Power Company	12	13
Brookline Land Company	4	—
Eastern Railroad 7s, S F	57	58
Boston, Hartford & Erie 8 & 7s	18¾	19¼
Boston & Albany Railroad	134½	134¾
Boston & Maine Railroad	107¾	—
Cincin., Sandy & Cleve'd RR	9	9¼
Eastern Railroad	13¾	14
Metropolitan Railroad	55¾	56
Michigan Central RR	68¾	68¾
Old Colony RR	106	107
Rutland Railroad, preferred	—	—
Vermont & Canada Railroad	28	29¾

MARRIAGES

9th inst., by Rev. F. S. Tower, Mr. Thomas H. Stephenson to Miss Abbie S. Cole.

In this city, 6th inst., by Rev. E. A. Warfield, Mr. William S. Haskell of Brooklyn, N. Y., to Mrs. Saran A. Upton of Boston.

6th inst., by Rev. R. H. Neale, D. D., Mr. Benjamin C. Palfrey to Miss Sarah E. Cole.

10th inst., Mrs. Miza H. Clapp, widow of the late Capt James Clapp of Boston, 78 years 6 months.

11th inst., Ann Lorey, wife of the late John F. Ober, 65 years 9 months.

10th inst., Henry Adams, 24 years 5 months.

10th inst., Mrs Hannah Smith, 80 years.

In Cambridge, 11th inst., Mrs. Mary A., wife of W. H. Evans, 35 years.

In Hyde Park, 11th inst., Sarah R., wife of R. F. Moseley.

In Roxbury, 11th inst., Elizabeth T. Parker, daughter of the late Isaac Parker, 64 years.

In Auburndale, 9th inst., Charles Eager of Worcester, 66 years.

In Campello, 8th inst., Den. Thomas Smith, formerly of Hanover, 80 years 4 months 8 days.

In Philadelphia, 10th inst., Mrs. Mary B. Ide, relict of the late Charles Ide, Esq., formerly of Fitchburg and Natick, Mass., 79 years.

In Medford, 9th inst., by Rev. H. C. De Long, Mr. Lewis F. Graves to Miss Ella S. Symmes, both of Medford.

In Haverhill, 5th inst., by Rev. Franklin Tuttury of Boston, Arba N. Lincoln, Esq., of Fall River, to Miss Myra Kimball of Haverhill.

In Watertown, 5th inst., by Rev. Granville S. Abbott, Capt William W. Winn of Weils, Me., to Miss Emily B. Gilkey of Watertown.

In Winchester, 5th inst., by Rev. I. P. Langworthy, Mr. Louis I. Smith of Philadelphia, to Miss Ellen L. Chapman of Winchester.

In Bridgewater, Mass., 6th inst., by Rev. G. H. Hosmer, Edward Sawyer, M. D., to Miss Clara F., daughter of Hon. Lloyd Parsons, all of Bridgewater.

DEATHS.

In this city, 7th inst., Mr. Samuel Curtis, 90 years 2 months.

10th inst., Francis Gardner, 63 years.

8th inst., Mrs. Margaret, wife of Hartley R Woodbridge, 55 years.

Mrs. Nancy Nash, widow of the late Joseph Nash of Boston, 88 years 9 months.

9th inst., Dolly Whitney, widow of the late William Bean, 79 years.

In Dorchester District, 6th inst., Rachel R., widow of the late James Robinson, 72 years.

In South Boston, 7th inst., Samuel G. Howe, 74 years.

In Cambridgeport, 9th inst., Miss Phebe F. Fifield, 79 years 7 months.

In Boston, 6th inst., Mrs. Betsey Buck, widow of the late Ephraim Buck, M. D., of Boston, 92 years 7 months 20 days.

In Arlington, 6th inst., Miss Hannah C. Locke, 76 years 9 months.

In Arlington, 5th inst., Ann Maria, wife of I. C. Blanchard, 48 years 11 months.

In Newtonville, 10th inst., Mrs. Susan Andrews, widow of the late John Andrews, 80 years 2 months 3 days.

In Lynn, 7th inst., Mrs. Elizabeth P., wife of Nehemiah Lee, 49 years.

In Lynn, 7th inst., Mary, wife of Elphalet Swett, late of Amesbury, Mass., 78 years 11 months 4 days.

In Medway, Mass., 5th inst., Rhoda H. Sanford, in her 90th year.

In Weston, Mass., 5th inst., Mrs. Emily S., wife of Mr. Esther Harrington, 63 years 11 months.

In Malden, 5th inst., Ebenezer C Mann, 69 years.

In Melrose, 7th inst., Mary E., wife of the late Jonathan Lynde, in the 73d year of her age.

In Waltham, 5th inst., Edward F. Miller, son of the late Thomas F. M ller, 19 years.

In Westboro', 31st ult., Miss Anna D. Brown, 75 yrs.

In Concord, 6th inst., Mrs. Mary Ball, relict of the late Benjamin Ball, 81 years 2 months.

In Acton, 7th inst., Mrs. Jane R. Bush, wife of Mr. Warren T. Bush, 50 years.

In Brooklyn, N Y., 7th inst., Louise M., wife of Henry Wilson, and daughter of Emery Bemis of Grantville, Mass.

New Advertisements.

Wanted to Hire, with Lease,

A good productive Farm, with Stock and Tools, one that will cut from 20 to 35 tons of hay; or will take one on shares. Address FARMER, dress, with full particulars, Rockland, Mass. jan15-2t*

Wanted to Lease,

A Farm, for a term of years, with Stock and Tools, or without; or would take, with the privilege of buying. Address, giving particulars and location, J. A. W., natick, Mass. jan15-tf

Dr. C. W. Calkins,

So long and favorably known, at 146 Pleasant Street, this City, as a kind and skillful Physician, has returned to Boston to reside permanently, and opened an Office at 3½3 Tremont Street, where he hopes to receive a continuance of his old friends.

Special attention given to diseases of Women and Children.

If desired, patients from out of town, can be accommodated with board and nursing, while under treatment. jan15-13t

New Advertisements.

CALIFORNIA.

THE CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN RAILWAY

Embraces under one management the Great Trunk Railway Lines of the WEST and NORTHWEST, and, with its numerous branches and connections, forms the shorter, best and quickest route between CHICAGO and all points in ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, NORTHERN MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, IOWA, NEBRASKA, CALIFORNIA and the WESTERN TERRITORIES. Its

Omaha and California Line

Is the shortest and best route for all points in NORTHERN ILLINOIS, IOWA, DAKOTA, NEBRASKA, WYOMING, COLORADO, UTAH, NEVADA, CALIFORNIA, OREGON, CHINA, JAPAN and AUSTRALIA. Its

Chicago, Madison & St. Paul Line

Is the short line for NORTHERN WISCONSIN and MINNESOTA, and for MADISON, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, DULUTH and all points in the Great Northwest. Its

Winona and St. Peter Line

Is the only route for WINONA, ROCHESTER, OWATONNA, MANKATO, ST. PETER, NEW ULM, and all points in Southern and Central Minnesota. Its

Green Bay and Minnesota Line

Is the only line for JANESVILLE, WATERTOWN, FOND DU LAC, OSHKOSH, APPLETON, GREEN BAY, ESCANABA, NEGAUNEE, MARQUETTE, HOUGHTON, HANCOCK and the LAKE SUPERIOR COUNTRY. Its

Freeport and Dubuque Line

Is the only route for ELGIN, ROCKFORD, FREEPORT, and all points via Freeport. Its

Chicago and Milwaukee Line

Is the old Lake Shore Route, and is the only one passing through EVANSTON, LAKE FOREST, HIGHLAND PARK, WAUKEGAN, RACINE, KENOSHA to MILWAUKEE.

Pullman Palace Cars

are run on all through trains of this road.

This is the ONLY LINE running these cars between Chicago and St. Paul, Chicago and Milwaukee, or Chicago and Winona.

At Omaha our Sleepers connect with the Overland Sleepers on the Union Pacific Railroad, for all points west of the Missouri River.

On the arrival of the trains from the East or South, the trains of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway leave CHICAGO as follows:

For Council Bluffs, Omaha, and California—Two through trains daily, with Pullman Palace Drawing Room and Sleeping Cars through to Council Bluffs.

For St. Paul and Minneapolis—Two through trains daily, with Pullman Palace Cars attached on both trains.

For Green Bay and Lake Superior—Two trains daily, with Pullman Palace Cars attached, and running through to Marquette.

For Milwaukee—Four through trains daily Pullman Cars on night train, Parlor Chair Cars on day trains.

For Sparta and Winona and points in Minnesota—On through train daily, with Pullman Sleepers to Winona.

For Dubuque, via Freeport—Two through trains daily, with Pullman Cars on night trains.

For Dubuque and La Crosse, via Clinton—Two through trains daily, with Pullman Cars on night train to Mctregor, Iowa.

For Sioux City and Yankton—Two trains daily. Pullman Cars to Missouri Valley Junction.

For Lake Geneva—Four trains daily.

For Rockford, Rock Island, Winona, Janesville, and other points, four trains per day from two to ten trains daily.

New York Office, No. 415 Broadway; Boston Office, No. 5 State Street; Omaha Office, 253 Farnham Street; San Francisco Office, 121 Montgomery Street; Chicago Ticket Office, 62 Clark Street, under Sherman House; corner Canal and Madison Streets; Kinzie Street Depot, corner W. Kinzie and Canal Streets; Wells Street Depot, corner Wells and Kinzie Streets.

For rates of interment not available from your home ticket agents, apply to

W. H. NEWMAN, Gen'l Passenger Agt. MARVIN HUGHITT, General Sup't, Chicago.

jan15

Walnut Hills Farm, Brookline.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

EIGHT BERKSHIRE PIGS, ALL SOWS, perfectly marked, 5 weeks old. From stock imported by J. Carter Brown, Esq.—$10 each.

A. T. BROWN,
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The Poet's Corner.

CENTENNIAL.

BY JOSEPH RESSEFIELD.

I will tell you a tale of the olden time,
An hundred years ago;
I will fire your hearts with deeds sublime,
That all in the land should know;
And then as you hear the New Year's chime,
Which the bells ring out like a merry rhyme,
You, too, with their song shall glow.

You have all heard the story of Bunker Hill,
When the sons of New England arose
And fought with the veteran troops, until
They checked their advancing foes;
How they drove them back, with a patriot's will,
(That lives and breathes in their children still)
Which in "seventy-six" arose.

But their powder gave out at last, you know,
When the Redcoats rallied amain,
Marched boldly up to their unarmed foe,
Who slowly retired again;
But the battle they fought had not been in vain,
As the seed of her church is the blood of her slain,
So Warren was martyred too.

Need I tell you the story, how all through the land
When the news of that battle was told,
The people, uprising on every hand
In city and hamlet, enrolled;
The men from the mountain, the men from the strand;
All joined in the cohorts of Liberty's band
When Liberty's tocsin was told.

And long was the struggle, and bitter the strife,
Those sterling patriots knew,
Ere Freedom emerged in her battle for life,
From the trials her youth passed through;
When the roll of the drum, and the note of the fife,
And the canon's dull boom, were the sounds that were rife,
And the prelude of Victory, too!

And now I can show you, this land of the free,
One people from Georgia to Maine,
Through the blessings of Providence, ever to be
United—in heart as in fame—
From the shore of the Lakes to the shore of the sea;
And that this is the triumph we bring unto to thee,
Centennial year, be our aim!

Ladies' Department.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

To Let! Inquire Within.

BY E. L. TURNER.

John and I had had our supper, the dishes were washed up, and now I had taken a piece of sewing to occupy my fingers, while my lord and master lounged in his rocking chair with a fragrant 'weed' between his lips, and an expression of amiable contentment irradiating his whole countenance.

'John,' said I, suddenly breaking the silence, 'let us board this winter.'

'What in thunder puts t at idea into your head?' cried John, dropping his cigar in his astonishment. (N. B.—John *will* use such naughty expressions wh-n he gets put out!)

'Well, my dearest,' said I, soo.hingly, 't would be so much less trouble to begin with. No fires to worry over—'

'I never grumbled at lighting fires, I'm sure,' interrupted John, 'and I've done it every morning, since that last blessed help of yours made herself scarce.'

'Yes, and you have been a pattern husband in that respect! But you forget that lighting a fire is not all; it has to be kept up; and then it makes such heaps of horrid gray ashes, and those ashes will scatter themselves over the rooms, making no end of dust and dirt.'

'Why don't you get another girl, then?'

'Because I have had enough of them,' I exclaimed empathatically, 'and would sooner do all my own work than have another such torment in the house again. I think of Jane, who seemed such perfection in every respect, and whom I caught on a Sunday afternoon, wearing my second best bonnet up in the park, when she thought I was at home with the headache. And Sarah, who smashed nearly all our china in a fit of drunkenness, while trying to fight the butcher's boy, because he dared to speak against "auld Ireland!" and Martha, too, who seemed so respectable, and was brought home by a policeman at two o'clock in the morning, and next day had the face to ask if she might have a little party in our kitchen. Then worst of all, Biddy—'

'Oh! spare me a recapitulation of all our domestic woes, I pray you,' cried John. 'I'm sure I heard enough of the wickedness of servants at the time, without having all their sins raked up afresh.'

'Then I should think you could see that it is quite impossible for me to feel as if I can trust in a servant again,' said I, 'and if we cannot get a good one, think what a terrible prospect there is before me! Sweeping, dusting and cleaning of all sorts without end; dishwashing after every meal as a horrible dessert, to say nothing of the cooking—'

'Which you have always professed to enjoy, telling me how you liked discovering new dishes to astonish me with. What a humbug you must be, Lottie.'

'Well, it had to be done of course I made the best of it,' said I; 'but oh! John, if you had only seen how delightfully Nellie Dyson is situated, I am sure you would want to board as much as I do.'

'Ah, ha! so Neil Dyson is the real secret of this sudden whim of yours, is it?' said John, most ill naturedly.

But I took no notice. 'She has two of the sweetest rooms, furnished with such exquisite taste,' I went on, 'and she has nothing to do but to play on the piano, and read all day long if she likes.'

'Idling round, doing nothing, in other words. Well, it is all she is fitted for. Empty headed, rattle brained doll that she is.'

'You must not speak against my fr end. Mr. Dyson appreciated her merits, at any rate,' said I, loftily—

'Mr. Dyson admired her dollars, I've no doubt,' said that provoking John; 'but seriously, Lottie, you have a sensible head on your shoulders, and I wonder you don't see what utter folly all this talk is about giving up our own house and boarding; so I beg that I may hear no more about it.'

And then John took up a m gazine, lighted another cigar, and settled down to his selfish enjoyment, while poor I, went on with my matter of fact work, (shall I confess it?) of darning *his* socks! But pray, do not for one moment imagine by this, that I was conquered! No indeed. *But I bided my time.* I am not going to let out my secret, and betray the network of little artifices I used to carry out my design. The fact remains to be stated that a week from the day on which I had first mentioned the subject to John, he told me, on going to his business after breakfast, that I might please myself; that his great wish was to see me happy, and if it would make me more so, I might let our house, and find a boarding house as soon as I pleased. Somehow I felt a little badly then, as if, after all, I might have been a wee bit selfish and willful, but I soon persuaded myself into thinking that we should both be more really comfortable in boarding; so before dinner time, I had a notice up by our front door, which I had painted myself with a big brush and some black paint, 'To Let! Inquire Within.' Then I went across the street to admire my work. The letters certainly looked to me as if they had been out on a spree all night, and were tumbling against each other for support, but I thought that other people would not be so critical as I, and went in doors to search the newspaper for an advertisement of a boarding place. There was only one, which read thus:—

"BOARDING.—Two unfurnished rooms, with board, may be obtained in the house of a widow lady. Unexceptionable references required. Address, &c."

'The very thing,' I thought to myself. 'The house of a widow lady would probably be quiet and comfortable, and there would be no vulgar man round making a noise. We can furnish no end of references, and I will go as soon as we have finished dinner, and secure the rooms.' Then I went to attend to some cookery, and while I was thus engaged there came a sharp peremptory ring at the front door, followed by another, and another in such quick succession, that I made sure something dreadful had happened. I rushed to the door, more than half expecting to see John brought home on a shutter, half killed by some frightful accident, and thinking self reproachfully of certain little wicked speeches of my mine, I opened it, with a terror stricken face, I am sure, as the bell sent forth a still louder peal, and there stood a seedy looking, unshaven man, with his hat on one side, and hands in his pockets. I was about to shut the door in his face thinking him a beggar, when he cried, 'Say, How many rooms is there in this here house?' 'Eight,' I replied shortly. 'What's the rent?' was the next question. I hesitated. John had left everything entirely to me, and I had overlooked this important point. 'Fifty dollars a month,' I said, boldly.

The man stared at me a moment in surprise, and then turned and walked off without a word. I quickly locked the door, and put the chain up, as the man, I thought, might be a housebreaker, and return to rob us—he looked capable of it!—I had just got my kitchen apron on, and was beating up the whites of some eggs to froth a pudding with, when there came another ring at the bell. 'Bother!' I cried, setting my plate of egg down on the table with such a jerk, that the slippery whites glided elegantly off, just smearing the table before they landed in an uneatable mass on the kitchen floor. But the ring was repeated, and I must not linger. So, with a ruffled look (though not a ruffled mien trimming) I went to the door, and at once felt horribly conscious of my common apron, and the other defects of my toilet, for there stood a tall, graceful lady, dressed in the extreme of fashion. She languidly made a few inquiries, while I felt she was eyeing my dress, and noting by instinct all its deficiencies, and then said she would like to see the house. I took her into the parlor, which she silently examined with the aid of an eyeglass, and then commenced criticising the hall, not approving of our choice of papering, which she said should be lighter and varnished. Then the stairs were far too narrow, and the steps too high; she had never been accustomed to such common steps! Up stairs everything was wrong. Our pretty front bedroom, which we had foolishly imagined to be perfection, turned out to be too low, and to possess too many windows; to need a moulding, and to be uninhabitable without a dressing room leading from it! The second bedroom was to my surprise, considered a trifle better, and would almost do if it had new painting and papering, and then she asked to see the bath room.

'We have none!' I faltered.

Oh! the withering look that met mine—'No bath room?' the elegante exclaimed, 'Why, I thought that every family with any pretension to gentility, had that. But I suppose your husband might turn one of the smaller bedrooms into one.'

'No doubt he could do so if he wished,' I replied, angry with myself for being snubbed and broken spirited by this woman.

Well, we even climbed up into the attic, and I had to endure all sorts of hard speeches about our home, which made me inwardly rage, and then we descended to the parlor.

'What rent do you ask for this house?' asked my tormentor.

'I think it will be thirty-five dollars a month,' said I, in my uncertainty what would be a fair price. She seemed to divine that I knew nothing about rents, and put on as great an appearance of astonishment as was consistent with her elegance.

'Why!' she exclaimed, 'I never heard of such a sum for a house like this. If there were all the modern improvements, the case would be different, but there would be so much to be done to render this house fit to be lived in, that thirty-five dollars is an absurd price to ask. If you had said twenty-five, I should have considered it quite enough.'

'I would never let the house for so paltry a sum as that,' I said, angrily,

'Indeed! well, I assure you that you will get no more for it, as anybody who has seen anything of the world, and knows what dwelling houses ought to be, would no think much of this. Cannot you make up your mind to take twenty-five?'

'No, Madam,' I replied, decidedly, for I saw by the slightly eager tone of the last speech, that she was really desirous of having the house, and only wanted to make a good bargain about it,—and I continued, 'if that is all you can afford to give, it is no use for you to think any more about it.'

The lady rose from the sofa, where she had spread herself, and shook out her flounces in an indignant little way, while she said scornfully, 'I am not accustomed to be insulted by my inferiors,' and then swept out of the house, while I, like a little goose (and not merely old age) had taken all the spring out of it. The only picture, which graced the walls, was the likeness of a long faced, sour looking man, with an awful choker on, framed in black, with a withered piece of Cypress over the top. In a minute or two, the door opened, and a worn looking woman in rusty black entered.

'I have come to see the rooms,' I said, rushing to the point at once, in a way that would have shocked John had he been there.

'Very well, you can come up stairs, Mrs.——?' and she hesitated. 'Selkirk,' I put in and followed her. The rooms were large, pleasant, and very clean, so that I began to think myself in luck's way, and when we returned to the parlor, and commenced talking of terms, all was equality satisfactory.

And then when my mind was almost made up, Mrs. Tweezle, (for such was her name) laid her hand on my arm in an impressive manner.

'You cannot think, my dear lady,' said she, 'what joy I experience in this moment. I recognize in you a kindred spirit, and feel that, young as you are, you will sympathize with me in my sorrows. I can read it in your liquid eyes, and in the delicate quivering of your sensitive mouth. The lonely widow will be more to you than the mere boarding house keeper—she will be your friend, and you will be her sweet consoler.' I saw she expected me to speak, but so fearful was I that the 'delicate quivering' of my mouth would become an irresistible laugh (this solemn talk had come on me so unexpectedly) that I merely shook my head condolingly.

'You see that portrait,' she went on, 'he was my late husband, and oh! the privilege of having been the wife of such a man! so excellent! so pious! and yet so humble he, that he would sit for days before the fire in this room, weeping over his sins, till his largest pocket handkerchief would oftentimes be wringing wet with that saint's holy tears. Oh, the task I had to coax him to eat anything! I was teaching school then, but the only way I could do, was to hurry home and cook up something, kind of extra, so as to take him by surprise as he sat, and then he'd be tempted.'

'But was he in no business?' I managed to ask.

'He had been clerking in a store, till his sins took such hold on him that he just gave it up to have more time for weeping and meditation. And then his enemies went and got up the story that he drank, and that it was the liquor that kept him in tears at home! Just as if the little drop of gin he was forced to take between meals, to keep the life in' him, could have hurt one of his character.

'Well, Mrs. Tweezle, I really must be going now,' I said, rising up.

'You *will* take these rooms?' urged Mrs. Tweezle, holding my hand closely in hers.

'I must talk with my husband about it first,' I replied, disengaging myself from her grasp.

'Ah, yes! You are still blest with a beloved partner. But it will not be for long," she said, rolling up her eyes, 'something seems to tell me that you and I shall soon be one in sorrows.'

'Oh, gracious! I hope not!' I exclaimed, breaking away and half running down the street, wondering to myself whether this extraordinary woman had not been refreshing herself with a drop of the same stimulant as that used by her dear departed!

But, dear me! if I go on relating all the experiences of the next few days, I shall far exceed all rational limits, so I will just skip over all that I went through in the way of intruders on my peace, ringing at that door bell the whole d y long, and the weary walks I had in search of a boarding place, (Mrs. Tweezle, with all its pious drawbacks, was the best I saw.)

The climax was reached in this manner. My opposite neighbor, Miss Pry, was a person of low origin and pushing ways, who had several times tried to force herself upon my acquaintance, but whom I had always repulsed. She was away from home when I put up my notice, but I suppose had not got back twenty minutes when she was at my house.

'Mercy on us, Mrs. Selkirk!' she exclaimed, pushing into the parlor, 'you don't say you are going to let your house? I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw the notice up. But I was right glad though, for my cousin Ann Stokes, is looking out for a house, and would just love to be so near me. But I suppose you'll paper and paint this room, won't you? I know Ann would think this too dark. And now I'll just go over the house, and see how it would suit, for Ann is dreadful particular.'

'You may spare yourself that trouble,' I said, rising with all the dignity I could muster, 'for the house is to let no longer.'

'Good morning.'

And somehow the astonished woman was out of the house before she could open her mouth again, while I tore down my hideous 'To Let,' and crunching it in my hands, pushed it into the hottest part of the stove.

When John returned, he exclaimed, 'So the house is taken, is it? Who got it?'

'A young couple,' said I, 'who have been married about six months, and lived very happily, till the wife got an idea in her head, which has caused her more worry than all the housework in the world, but has taught her at length, that it is better to 'bear those ills we have, than fly to others that we know not of.''

TOO LATE.

There is no cry in all the bitter earth
So bitter as the one which strives in vain
To pierce a grave with its remorse and pain;
"Dear one, at last I know thy priceless worth;
Thy death brought to my love its travail birth;
The far horizon of the loneliest plain
I seek, and soundless midnight on the main,
And stirless noonday in the desert's dearth,
To call thy name. I know thou livest. Wait,
Dear love, for God's sake wait one moment near;
I know thou lov'st me still. It cannot be
Too late for me to speak and thee to hear!"
Alas! no sound, no token answereth me,
Except the echoes of my words—"Too late!"

GENERAL GRANT'S SCHOOL DAYS.

REMINISCENCES OF THE OLD LOG SCHOOL HOUSE IN CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO.

Away up in a small hollow, just this side of Amelia, in Clermont county, there stood, a few years ago, an old country school house, weather-beaten, tumble-down and disused, which, in shadowy days, pointed out as the place where Ulysses S. Grant received his early education. The building has since been torn down, we believe, but there are recollections connected with it which have become of historic interest since Headley's "Hero Boy" has figured so largely in the history of his country.

"Nobody thought when Grant was a boy," said an old citizen of Clermont who attended this school at the same time the President did, 'that he would ever amount to much. The most promising boy in the school at that time was one named Henry Watley. He was at the head of the class in mathematics, geography, spelling and all the other studies, and everybody pointed out things of him; but he is now running a forty acre farm up in Warren county.'

'How did Grant average in his studies?'

'Only middling. He would never be called dull, but he was never brilliant. He used to spend a great deal of his time in reading the life of Napoleon, which interfered considerably with his school duties, until the teacher destroyed that book by putting it into the stove!'

'Was he punctual in his attendance?'

'Very. He never stayed away from school unless compelled to by circumstances. He was never late either, but was among the first to reach the school house in the morning.'

'Was he a noisy boy?'

'No, sir. Although courteous to everybody, he was not loud-mouthed, like the other boys, but spoke in a low and quiet tone of voice, with unusual dignity for one of his years.'

'We always called him Hiram at school,' continued the old stager. 'Nobody ever thought of calling him Ulysses; and after the capture of Vicksburg, when we had not heard from him for years, a great many of us did not know or even imagine that it was the boy who used to go to the old log school house in the hollow.'

'Was Grant a playful boy?'

'Not by any means. You never could get him to take part in any game or sport except a snow ball fight. In that he delighted. But as far as 'bull pen' or ball playing was concerned, he would never take any part, but would sit on a fence or a stump and look on.'

'During his school days did he ever exhibit signs of the perserving spirit for which he has since become noted?'

'I can remember but one occasion, and that was when the schoolmaster flogged him to make him give up a jackknife, with which he had been cutting the side of his desk. The schoolmaster demanded the knife, but Grant refused to give it up. The teacher tried to take it away, but could not do it. He then sent out into the woods and got a long black hickory switch, with which he belabored the future President to make him surrender the knife. But Grant persistently declined, and at last the pedagogue was forced to stop from sheer exhaustion. This incident was forcibly recalled to my mind when he made the famous remark—'I will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer,' and by many other similar incidents in his future career.'

'I saw Grant when he was here at the Burnet House in 1872,' continued our interviewer, 'and he was the first to recognize me and give me a cordial hand shake. He even came through a large crowd of dignitaries to shake hands with an old schoolmate.' —*Cincinnati Post.*

A BABY'S SOLILOQUY.—I am here. And if this is what they call the world, I don't think much of it. It is a very flannelly world, and smells of paregoric awfully. It's a dreadful light world, too, and makes me blink, I tell you. And I don't know what to do with my hands; I think I'll dig my fists in my eyes. No, I won't. I'll scrabble at the corner of my blanket and chew it up, and then I'll holler; whatever happens, I'll holler. And the more paregoric they give me the louder I'll yell. That old nurse puts the spoon in the corner of my mouth in a very uneasy way, and keeps tasting my milk herself all the while. She spilt snuff in it last night, and, when I hollered, trotted me. That came of being a two days' old baby. There's a pin sticking in me now, and if I say a word about it, I'll be trotted or fed; and I would rather have catnip tea. I'll tell you who I am. I found out to-day. I heard folks say, 'Hush, don't wake up Emeline's baby;' and I suppose that pretty white faced woman over on the pillow is Emeline.

No, I was mistaken; a chap was in here just now, and wanted to see Bob's baby; and looked at me and said, 'I was a funny little toad, and looked ju-t like Bob.' He smelt of cigars. I wonder who else I belong to. Yes, there's another one—that's 'Gamma.' 'It's Gamma's baby, so it was.' I declare I do not know who I belong to; but I'll holler, and maybe I'll find out. There comes Snuffy with catnip tea. I'm going to sleep. I wonder why my hands won't go where I want them to?—*Sanitarian for January.*

☞ It is remarked by some writer that "excess of ceremony shows want of good breeding." This is true. There is nothing so troublesome as overdone politeness. A truly well-bred man makes every person around him feel at ease; he does not throw civilities about him with a shovel, nor toss compliments in a bundle, as he would hay with a pitchfork. There is no evil under the sun more intolerable than ultra-politeness.

A WOMAN'S BRAVERY.

Robert Ellis, almost immediately after his marriage with pretty Mary Blake, had departed with his young wife from his pleasant home in the New England States for the wilds of the far west, which just then was fast becoming the land of promise to all adventurers of every nation. The young couple were accompanied by Robert's sister Kate, who, like the good sister she was, had left all the old friends, and even the luxuries of civilized life, to share with her brother the trials and perils of establishing a new home in the wilderness.

A few months previous Robert had cleared a tract of land in a delightful valley and erected and furnished a rude, but strong and comfortable, log house; so that there was very little for the family to do when they reached their destination, after days of weary travel, but to settle down quietly to the pursuits of the new life and the new duties which had devolved upon them.

A single year produced many changes in the appearance of the new home. Robert was an energetic and enterprising man, and had already begun to reap something of the sure reward for all his toils. The house itself, under the judicious management of his wife, aided by the ready and willing assistance which Kate Ellis was ever anxious to give, had begun to exhibit a pleasant and tasteful appearance. And, added to this, a few families from New England, beguiled by the beauty and attractiveness of the valley, had settled in the vicinity, a few miles apart, and thus, by mutual visits, many otherwise weary hours were brightened.

One day there came a messenger in hot haste, saying that a particular friend of Ellis was dying and had expressed a wish to see him. The distance to his friend's house was considerable, and Robert knew that he should be obliged to leave his wife and sister alone the greater part of the night and perhaps longer. Both Mary and Kate laughed at the idea of danger because of his absence. Though the nearest neighbor lived a mile away, aid succor, in case of need, would hardly be possible, yet they all regarded the fact of the isolated situation of their habitation the best reason for security. Still, Robert felt few words of warning advisable before he started.

'You had better keep as much in the house as possible,' he said to them, as he mounted his horse. 'And I think it will be as well to keep the doors fastened, especially after dark.'

'Do not fear,' Mary answered. 'We will be careful. But do not be absent any longer than is absolutely necessary, for my shall be anxious about you on that lonely road.'

He bade them both goodby, and they stood in the low doorway and watched his retreating form until it was lost at last among the thick trees; then they entered the house to attend to their usual duties.

The day passed slowly by, and evening set in, with a gloom enhanced by a thick bank of clouds which had gradually overcast the sky, and the mournful soughing of the wind. The distant growl of an approaching storm filled the two women with anxiety and dread, and gradually the lonesomeness of their situation began to be realized.

Mary Ellis, the more timid of the two, at length became so nervous and downcast that Kate, by an effort, conquered her own depression, and endeavored to cheer up her companion. In this she was eventually successful; and the chain was echoing with the laughter of the two, occasioned by the mirthful reminiscence which Kate was relating, when a quick, hurried knock at the door put a sudden termination to their merriment.

The two women started to their feet, and gazed anxiously into each other's faces, both of which had grown pale with apprehension.

Kate was the first to recover herself. Going to the door, she asked, in a voice which trembled in spite of all her efforts:

'Who is there, and what do you want?'

'Two travelers who have lost their way,' answered a voice from without. 'Cannot you accommodate us for the night?'

'We cannot do so conveniently,' Kate at last managed to articulate. 'You must pass on to the next house.'

'How far is it?' asked the same voice, after a few moments of hesitation.

'A little more than a mile,' replied Kate. Again there was a slight pause; then the person from without said:

'Nobody will go out for us to-night. My companion has been thrown from his horse, and may die before we reach there. You must let us in, otherwise his murder—it would be no less—will be on your head. Will you open the door?'

Kate's sympathies were touched. She hesitated a moment, then looked at Mary.

'What shall we do?' she asked shortly.

'I hardly know. I'm afraid to admit them,' said Mrs. Ellis.

'But if this man's story concerning his companion should be true! If he died we should never forgive ourselves.'

'It would be dreadful! and yet we run a fearful risk,' said Mary, looking undecidedly at her brother-in-law.

'We *must* let them in,' said Kate, after a moment's thought. 'If they mean us harm we will trust to Heaven for protection.'

She tried to speak these words bravely; but, nevertheless, it was with trembling hands that she undid the fastenings of the door, opened it and bade the applicants enter. Both men were armed when she came to see the two men as they crossed the threshold and the light fell upon them. They were rough looking fellows, even for the back woods.

'And so you decided to let us in at last?' said the more woifish looking of the two, as he crossed room and unceremoniously seated himself before the fire.

'Yes, said Kate. 'But,' she continued, with a quick start, 'I thought one of you was injured and nearly helpless?'

Here one of the men appeared to lean heavily upon his companion, who said: 'My friend was not so much hurt as I at first supposed. He was somewhat stunned by the fall, but is nearly recovered with the exception of still being very weak.'

Neither Kate nor Mrs. Ellis were quite satisfied with the appearance of the men, and had even begun to discredit the story by means of which they had gained admittance. The man who had pretended to have been hurt would occasionally, when he seemed to forget himself, appear as well and strong as his companion; and the two women began to feel very anxious, and sometimes cast fearful glances at each other. They were careful, however, not to betray their apprehensions to their guests.

Suddenly one of the men asked: 'Do you live here alone, my pretty women?'

Kate, to whom the question was more particularly addressed, though startled, managed to answer, quietly: 'Oh, no! My brother has been called away on business.'

'Will he return to-night?'

'I don't know. He said he should come back as soon as possible. He never *has been* away, over night, and I shall expect him at any moment.'

Kate Ellis said more than she really believed. It was more than likely that Robert would remain at his friend's house until morning. The violence of the storm and the darkness of the night would make it a hazardous undertaking to set out for his home before dawn. She did not dare to let the strangers know how utterly defenseless they were.

A few moments afterwards, as she passed them with noiseless tread to attend to some household duty, she heard one of the visitors ask of the other, in a low tone, evidently not intended for her ears, 'What shall we do with these women if they happen to be troublesome?'

'Oh! this will be the best way to silence them,' returned the other, drawing his hand significantly across his throat.

Kate shuddered, and for a moment a deathly faintness came over her. She knew then that all the fears she had entertained were not groundless. But with the knowledge of her own and Mary's peril came the resolution to meet it bravely. She possessed more than ordinary nerve and courage under her quiet demeanor; and mastering her momentary fear she crossed the room to where Mary was preparing a repast for their unwelcome guests.

'Let me make the coffee, Mary,' she said, aloud; then in an undertone, added: 'Be on your guard; these villains mean to murder us! Do not betray by a sign that we are aware of their purpose. I have a plan by which, if you are brave, we shall escape.'

Mary, by a gesture, signified that she comprehended what was required of her; and the heroic women resumed their employment with beating hearts, though outwardly calm and unconcerned.

The rude pine table was covered with a snowy cloth, the plates laid, and in a few moments a tempting repast was placed before the two men, to which they did ample justice.

When the meal was concluded one of the men leaned over and whispered a few words, to which his associate nodded affirmatively. The former then arose and expressed a desire to retire.

This was what Kate was expecting; and placing a lamp in his hand she directed him to the adjoining apartment. The ruffians wished their entertainers a friendly good-night and, passing into the room, closed the door.

'I don't see what can have come over me, Bill,' exclaimed one of them, when they were alone together. 'I'm uncommon sleepy!'

'I feel rather dozy myself,' said the other. 'S'posin' we rest awhile before proceeding to business? There's time enough. An hour's snooze will do us good after our long tramp.'

'I'm agreeable. Ellis can't get back before daylight, anyway. He'll never suspect anything, for he'll find Sutton dying just as he was told. They'll keep him there as long as possible.'

The room was furnished with two good beds in opposite corners. Each of the ruffians staggered to one, and threw himself upon it; and soon they were both sleeping heavily.

Kate and Mary Ellis, who were listening with anxious hearts in the outer room, at length heard the deep breathing of their guests, which told them they were buried in slumber.

'Thank Heaven!' exclaimed Kate. 'Now we are safe.'

'I cannot feel safe while they are in the house,' responded Mary. 'Let us fly at once, Kate. The darkness and storm are safer to encounter than these wretches when they awake!'

'I have a better plan than that,' said Kate Ellis, going to a closet and taking out a long clothes-line. 'Let us bind them while they sleep! Do not fear, sister; we can do it easily enough. I emptied the contents of the little bottle which Robert brought home last week for your toothache into the coffee. It was a pretty strong dose, too, and may kill them, but it was to save our lives.'

'The laudanum!' exclaimed Mary.

'Thank Heaven! Then we are indeed safe. But how came you to think of it? I never should have dared do such a thing, for fear of their detecting the taste.'

'Fortunately they did not,' said Kate. 'But we must secure them at once, while the drug is operating.'

The brave girl handed Mary a portion of the rope, which she had divided, and, followed by the other, entered the apartment tenanted by their would-be murderers.

The ruffians were completely overpowered by the potent drug which they had unconsciously imbibed, and the task of binding them was a comparatively easy one. Assured now of their escape from the deadly peril which had menaced them, the unusual strength and resolution of the heroic women entirely deserted them, and they sank upon the floor weak and helpless, but with happy and thankful hearts.

The hours dragged slowly away. At last the ruffians began to recover from the effects of the narcotic. Great was their surprise and fury when they discovered how completely they had been outwitted—and that by a couple of weak women! Their threats and entreaties were alike unheeded. Their captors had no faith in their protestations of innocence of any premeditated crime, and they at length were forced to become resigned to their fate.

At daybreak Robert Ellis returned. His indignation and astonishment on learning of the events of the night knew no bounds. He clasped the two loved ones to his heart and silently vowed never to leave them to such fearful risk again.

The discomfited ruffians were removed to the nearest jail. They were discovered to be old offenders and soon afterward met a just punishment. It appeared that they had stopped the preceding day at the house of Ellis' dying friend and had undertaken to deliver the message to Robert which had occasioned his departure. Learning by some means that the latter had a large sum of money at his house, the villains conceived the plan of taking advantage of his absence and robbing the farm, which plan happily miscarried, to the great discomfiture of its infamous projectors.

NEW YEAR—FOR WHOM!

BY DORA R. M'KNIGHT.

Happy new year!
Still are the echoes ringing,
Kind tones bear wishes winging,
Each heart to cheer.

Familiar times, scenes, places,
Familiar pangs, works, faces,
To perplex thee:
In this soiled, dark earth-prison,
Wherein hath change arisen,
To comfort me?
Of such the well-meant child's playing,
The sad-wise must be saying,
Just "Vanity!"

Hush life, young, old!
This gift alone is given,
To one now entering Heaven?
The secret's told.
All true the song, the story,
All real the bliss, the glory,
Thou shalt behold.

With painless ardor burning,
Of Love and Knowledge learning,
Of Holiness,
Record the dazzling vision!—
Relate the land elysian!—
Spirit, to bless
Thy erst flesh partners, trying
With shaded eyes, to spy in
With strange endless.

Happy new year!
That higher meaning singing,
The words some hope is bringing
Each heart to cheer.

A QUEER CASE OF SOMNAMBULISM.

A very curious and remarkable case of somnambulism, says the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*—the heroine of the adventure being well known in society circles—has just come to light, though it occurred several weeks since.

The facts are these—but let the young gentleman who furnishes the information tell the story in his own way. Mr. Booth's statements are supposed to be reliable. In answer to a question, he says:—

"I am the operator left on watch after the regular business of the night is over. From two in the morning till seven I am generally alone. I have no objections to relating the particulars of this strange affair that lately happened in my presence. There can be no impropriety in my doing so, as I shall not divulge the name of the young lady, having given a solemn promise to that effect. It was in this way:

"About a month ago, a warm and very brilliant moonlight morning, between 2 and 3 o'clock, I was sitting in one of the windows to get a little fresh air, preparatory to settling down to writing, which would keep me busy until relieved by the morning men. It was exceedingly quiet, not an instrument working, nor any sound without. There came a faint knock at the door, which somewhat startled me, for it was very rare to receive a call—indeed, I do not remember of ever before seeing an outside party since I have been in this position. The door was partially open. I said 'Come in.' To my great surprise, there entered one of the loveliest of beings. She was richly dressed, as if for an afternoon promenade. I was so taken aback, it was a moment before I offered a seat. She politely declined to be seated, saying she was pressed for time—that she had called to collect my subscription in aid of —— society. I glanced at the little book she offered me, then at the young lady, who met my gaze with an air of exceeding sweetness and intelligence.

"There was no sign of insanity in that face (I had not thought of somnambulism,) and I could not account for the proceeding. I said—'Miss, there is some mistake; I do not see my name on the list.' She replied —'Then it must be in the other book; and left it at home. It is five dollars monthly, I believe; you can hand it to me, and I will give you credit for the same in the proper form. My time is so much occupied in this work I do not know when I can call again.'

"She appeared so earnest, so ingenuous in her remarks I felt there must be a delusion somewhere. Either she or I was dazed. I looked at my surroundings to make sure of myself. All seemed right. There were the implements of my profession; the clock recorded 2.45 A. M. There was but one conclusion—my visitor was evidently temporarily deranged. On such an errand at that hour of the morning! What could be the solution of this mysterious behavior? I was becoming really alarmed. I turned to her again and said—'I am very sorry to inconvenience you, but I have not the money with me.' 'Very well; I will call again. Good evening, sir.'

"As the lady was retiring, her hand accidentally came in contact with one of the instruments immediately connected with the battery, by which she received a severe electric shock. Instantly there was a change in her manner—such a change! I will never forget it. She screamed, 'Where am I? Where am I? What place is this? Who are you?' Half fainting, but conscious, and trembling with fear, she sunk into a chair. Quickly as possible I brought her a glass of water, at the same time assuring her that she was in a place of safety, that there was nothing to fear.

"In a few moments she became calm, and seemed perfectly free from alarm, yet extremely anxious to be conveyed to her home. One remark she made—'I have been walking in my sleep again'—let me into the secret of the affair. After giving me directions as to the place of her residence, I left her alone till I could find a carriage or obtain other assistance. Fortunately I met the policeman who patrols the Olive Street beat. This officer came with me. As she seemed satisfied to be placed under his protection, I bid my charming visitor 'good morning' and returned to my duties.

"Having her address, I naturally called the very next day to inquire if she reached home in safety. I met with a cordial reception. Herself and all the members of her family were profuse in thanks. I learned that, escorted by the policeman, she arrived home about 3.30. Her departure had not become known. Her entry was alike unheard. Only at breakfast did the family hear of her strange adventure."

A LOVER'S FANCY.

Do you know to what kingdom my true love belongs
To the earth, or the sky, or the sea?
She belongs to them all—aye, every one—
For she's all of the world to me.

There are flashes of gold in her hair,
And her teeth are the pearls of the sea:
There is heaven's own blue in her eye—
For she's all of the world to me.

"Off With the Old Love."

Just one week ago to-day, after a two years' absence from the Star-spangled, during which I had been idling through Europe, I dropped into the studio of my old friend Fred Jolie. Fred is an artist in the illuminating way—dashes off graceful adornments and quaint letterings at a moment's notice. Fact is, Fred couldn't do anything that required time and thought; his inspirations come suddenly and go quickly. He was at work when I entered, and so much engrossed that he did not hear me; so I took the liberty born of old companionship, and glanced over his shoulder. An exquisite photograph of a young and very pretty girl lay upon the desk, and Fred was rapidly sketching one of his fanciful borders—in which Cupids in various disguises and no disguised at all, floating lace veils, and orange buds and blossoms formed no inconsiderable share—around it.

'Hallo! Fred,' said I.

'Hallo! yourself,' retorted he. 'Wait an instant till I twine these honeysuckles round this bow and arrow, and I'll look to see who you are.'

I waited till the weapon of the boy-god was properly festooned, and then Fred, springing from his chair with an exclamation of surprise, seized my hand and shook it until my very shoulder ached.

'The Lord love you, my dear boy!' he burst out, in his old impulsive way, 'When did you come back? How well you look!—bearded like a pard. And what do you think of that?' pointing to the picture.

I examined it. A tall, slender blonde, with fluffy, fair hair, large, well-opened eyes—blue I suppose—slightly aquiline nose, pouting lips, arch expression. 'Altogether charming,' was my verdict.

'You're right,' shouted Fred. 'By heaven, she's glorious, great, and victorious! I met her, night before last—Sunday; fell in love with her on the spot. She sent me this picture, to-day—Tuesday. I shall propose to her, to-morrow—Wednesday,—and hope to marry her before the week is out.'

'Isn't that rather a rash scheme?' I asked.

'Look before you leap;' 'Marry in haste and repent at leisure;' 'Think twice—'

'To the deuce with your musty proverbs!' cried Fred. 'Is that all you've brought with you from the old world?—

"Gather the roses while you may
—I say with old Herrick—

"'Old Time is still a-flying,
And this same flower that smiles to-day,
To morrow will be dying.'

I've made up my mind to marry, and I hate long courtships—always did hate 'em. Had two sisters married in that way. Unfortunate fellows, how I used to pity 'em!—the lovers, I mean, not the sisters; cheeked by the younger members of the family, and chaffed and kissed by the others; dinners on Sundays, with prospective father-in-law glaring over the roast, and prospective mother-in law smiling over the pudding. No, no; not any for me. I meet a women, and in an hour I know her as well as I would in years' acquaintance—perhaps better. Why, then, should I hestitate to make love to and marry her immediately? Evadne—sweetest of names!—is my fate. I felt it the moment her eyes—' violets, blue violets'—met mine, and, as I said before, I propose, to-morrow. So, take your old pipe—it's on the top of the desk there, neatly enveloped in cobwebs—and tell me how you left the boys in France, Germany, and Rome.'

On Thursday evening, hurrying home to dinner—for I was uncommonly hungry—whom should I run against, or, more properly speaking, who should run against me, but the lir presible Fred! I scanned him a moment. Blue neck-tie, gray, no cigar, and a bouquet.

'Well?' was the result of my inspection.

'I've done it!' replied he, grasping me by the arm, and hurrying me along, in spite of myself, in a contrary direction to that which led to my chops and tomato sauce. 'I've done it, and I'm the happiest fellow in the world. You must be introduced to her. I'm only going to stop a moment, to give her these flowers; then after dinner, which I'll take with you, if you'll ask me, we go to see the lovely Neilson in Juliet. 'Oh, would I were a glove upon that—' By Jove, I'm the happiest—'

'But, you idiot,' I interrupted, at the same time trying to pull away from him, 'I have no blue-tie, no kid gloves, no bouquet.'

'Not the slightest matter,' replied Fred, coolly: 'She won't notice you at all—she'll only have eyes for me. And you must see her. Stop wriggling about. There's no getting away from it—we're at the door.

And in another moment we were ushered into a parlor, where a lady was seated on a music stool before the piano. She slowly revolved as we approached her, and, good heavens! It was not Evadne. This lady was a large, finely formed brunette, with bright, almost bold, dark eyes, braids of the blackest hair, saucy, retrousse nose and generous mouth.

'My dear Rosalie,' said Fred, rushing toward her with outstretched hands as she rose from her seat, dropping the bouquet as he did so, which I picked up and had the honor of presenting, after all, 'this is my dear old chum Will Wilfer. My children know each other;' and he stood aside while we acknowledged this slightly informal introduction. After allowing us to exchange half a dozen words, and begging his ladylove to be ready when he returned, 'for I hate to wait, you know,' Fred started off again dragging me with him; and as soon as we cleared the doorstep he burst